

THE
ARCHITECT
& BUILDING NEWS

HARLOW NEW TOWN

British

BUILDING EQUIPMENT

for the World

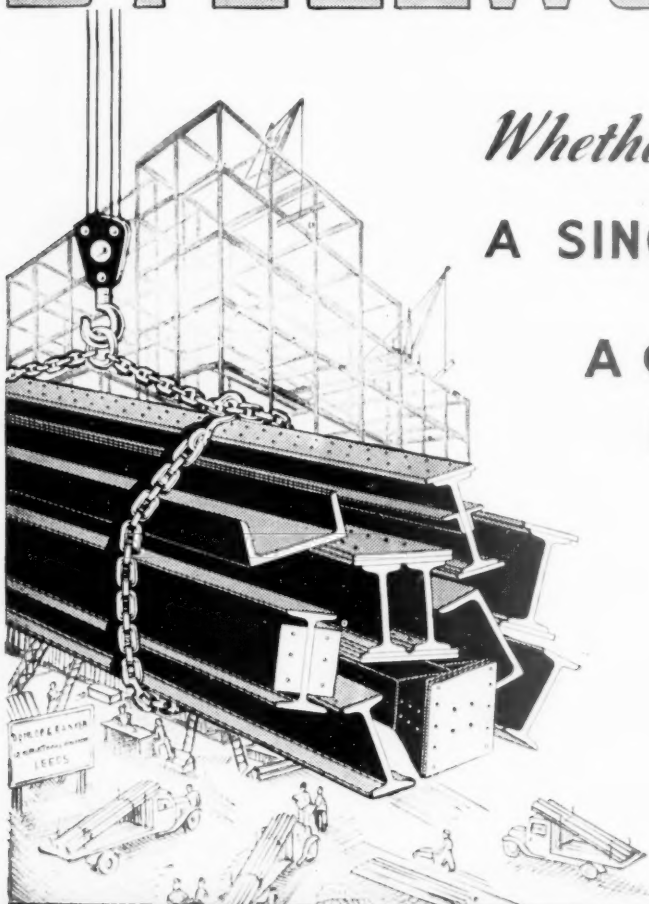
JULY 3, 1952

• VOL. 202

• NO. 4359

• ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

STEELWORK



Whether you want

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OR
A COMPLETE
BUILDING**

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**STEELWORK
SERVICE**

DUNLOP & RANKEN

**CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS
IRON & STEEL STOCKHOLDERS**

LTD

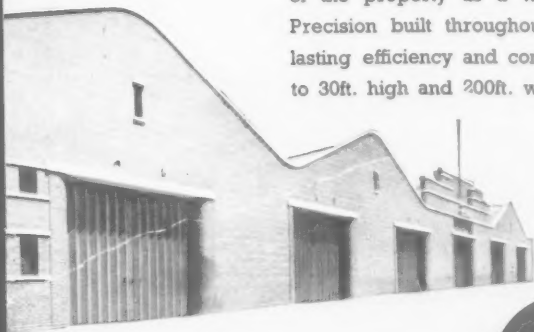
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27301 (20 LINES)**

LEEDS

**TELEGRAMS
"SECTIONS LEEDS"**



Bolton Shutter Gates are equally suitable for private residences and industrial applications. Their attractive design enhances the appearance of the property as a whole and in efficiency they are unequalled. Precision built throughout with the highest grade materials ensuring lasting efficiency and constant ease of operation, they are available up to 30ft. high and 200ft. wide. Write for catalogue A.B. '82.



The photograph on the left shows six pairs of Bolton Shutter Gates erected at the premises of Messrs. Rowe Bros. & Co. Ltd., Leeds Street, Liverpool.

LONDON OFFICE: 248, PERTH ROAD, ILFORD, ESSEX

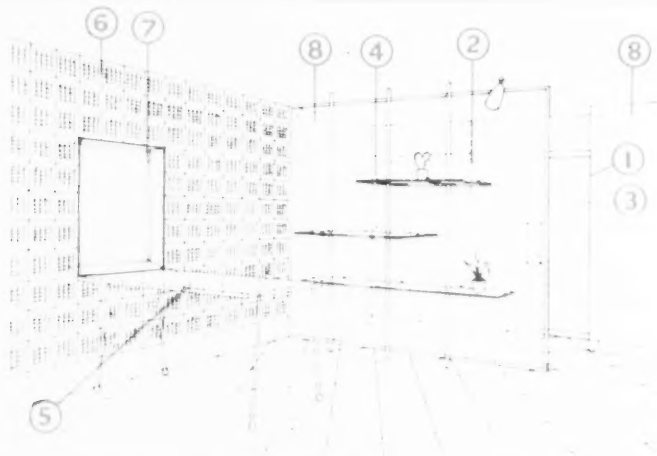
BOLTON
C-O-L-L-A-P-S-I-B-L-E **GATES**

BOLTON GATE COMPANY LIMITED, BOLTON, LANCs.

dm BG 74

NO SHORTAGE

STRUCTURAL AND DECORATIVE



ENTRANCE INTERIOR, SHOP ON CORNER SITE

Standard "ARMOURPLATE" glass frameless doors.
 "ARMOURPLATE" glass side panel.
 Polished plate glass screen wall in metal frame.

"ARMOURPLATE" glass display shelves on metal rods with bracket supports.
 rough cast glass table top on metal frame.
 INSULIGHT hollow glass block wall.
 Mirror display recess.
 1/2" silvered polished plate glass.



SHOP INTERIOR

Standard "ARMOURPLATE" glass frameless doors.
 "ARMOURPLATE" glass side panels.
 Polished plate glass transom.
 "VITROLITE" facing in ashlar sizes.
 1/2" silvered polished plate glass.

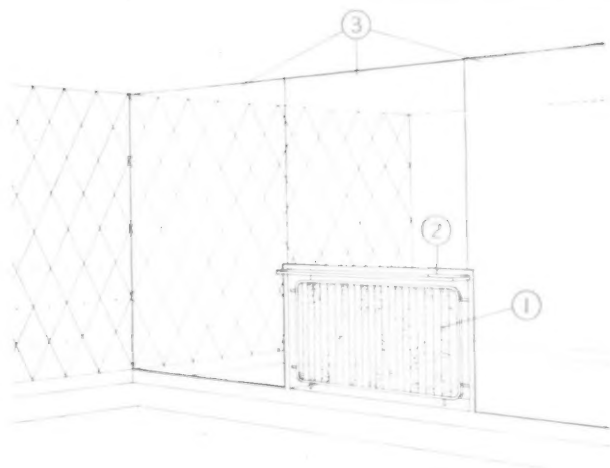


SHOP PEN COUNTER

"ARMOURPLATE" glass top.
 1/2" polished plate stippled on face, silvered on back.
 1/2" polished plate glass shelves.
 1/2" polished plate, stippled surface with letters left clear, silvered on back.

OF GLASS

USES OF THE MATERIAL

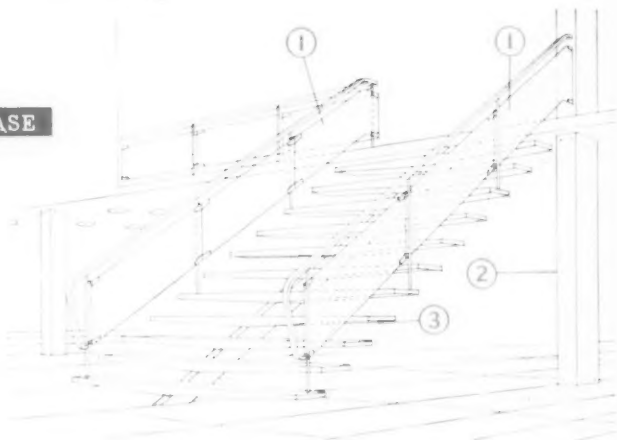


ENTRANCE LOBBY

- 1 Hammerstripe glass in metal frame to mask radiator and permit flow of warm air.
- 2 Rough cast glass shelf, silvered, edges polished.
- 3 Silvered polished plate glass wall facing.

DEPARTMENT STORE STAIRCASE

- 1 "ARMOURPLATE" glass panels to staircase balustrades.
- 2 Columns faced with plain mirror.
- 3 Concrete stair treads.



Designed by Edward Mills, F.R.I.B.A.

Consult the Technical Sales and Service Department at St. Helens, Lancs., or Selwyn House, Cleveland Row, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Telephones: St. Helens 4001, Whitehall 5672-6.

Supplies are available through the usual trade channels.

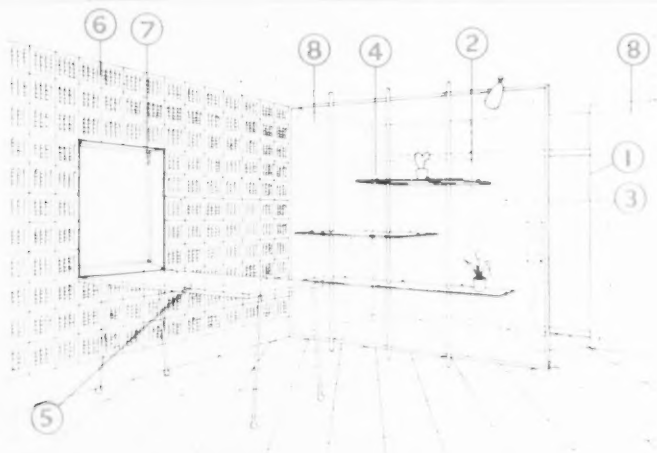


PILKINGTON BROTHERS LIMITED
ST. HELENS LANCs.

"ARMOURPLATE" & "HYDROLITE" are the registered trade marks of Pilkington Brothers Ltd. "PILKINGTON" is the British registered trade mark of Pilkington Brothers Ltd.

NO SHORTAGE

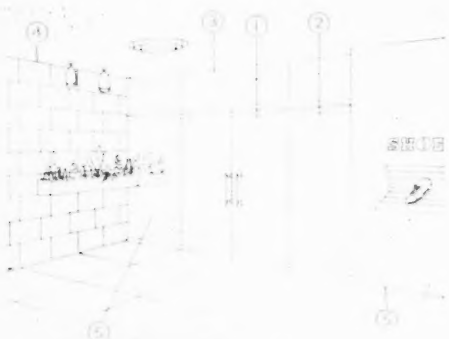
STRUCTURAL AND DECORATIVE



ENTRANCE INTERIOR, SHOP ON CORNER SITE

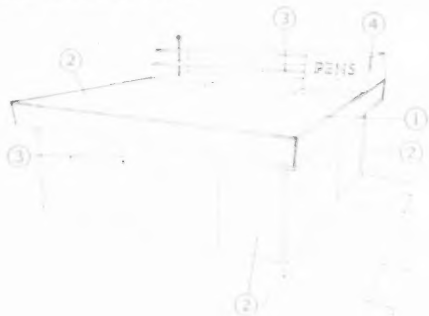
Standard "ARMOURPLATE" glass
frameless doors.
"ARMOURPLATE" glass side panel.
Polished plate glass screen wall in metal
frame.

"ARMOURPLATE" glass display shelves
on metal rods with bracket supports.
rough cast glass table top on metal frame.
"INSULIGHT" hollow glass block wall.
Mirror display recess.
1" silvered polished plate glass.



SHOP INTERIOR

Standard "ARMOURPLATE" glass
frameless doors.
"ARMOURPLATE" glass side panels.
Polished plate glass transom.
"VITROLITE" facing in ashlar sizes.
1" silvered polished plate glass.

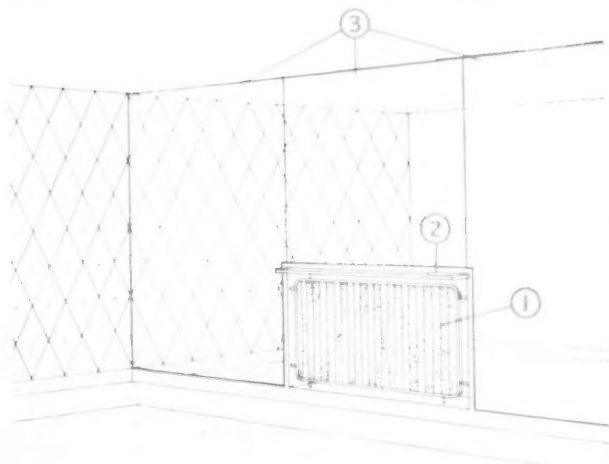


SHOP PEN COUNTER

"ARMOURPLATE" glass top.
1" polished plate supplied on face, silvered
on back.
1" polished plate glass shelves.
1" polished plate, supplied surface with
letters left clear, silvered on back.

OF GLASS

USES OF THE MATERIAL

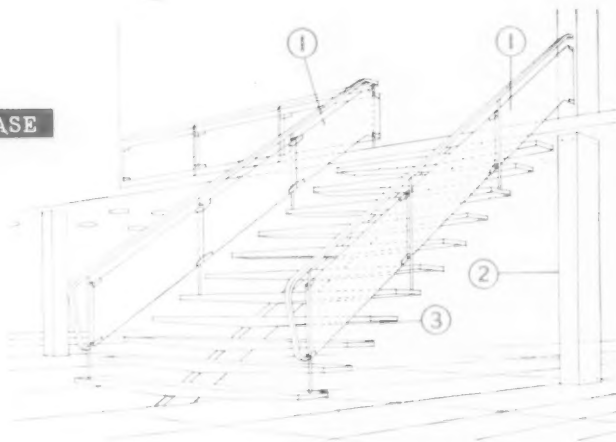


ENTRANCE LOBBY

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- 3 Silvered polished plate glass wall facing.

DEPARTMENT STORE STAIRCASE

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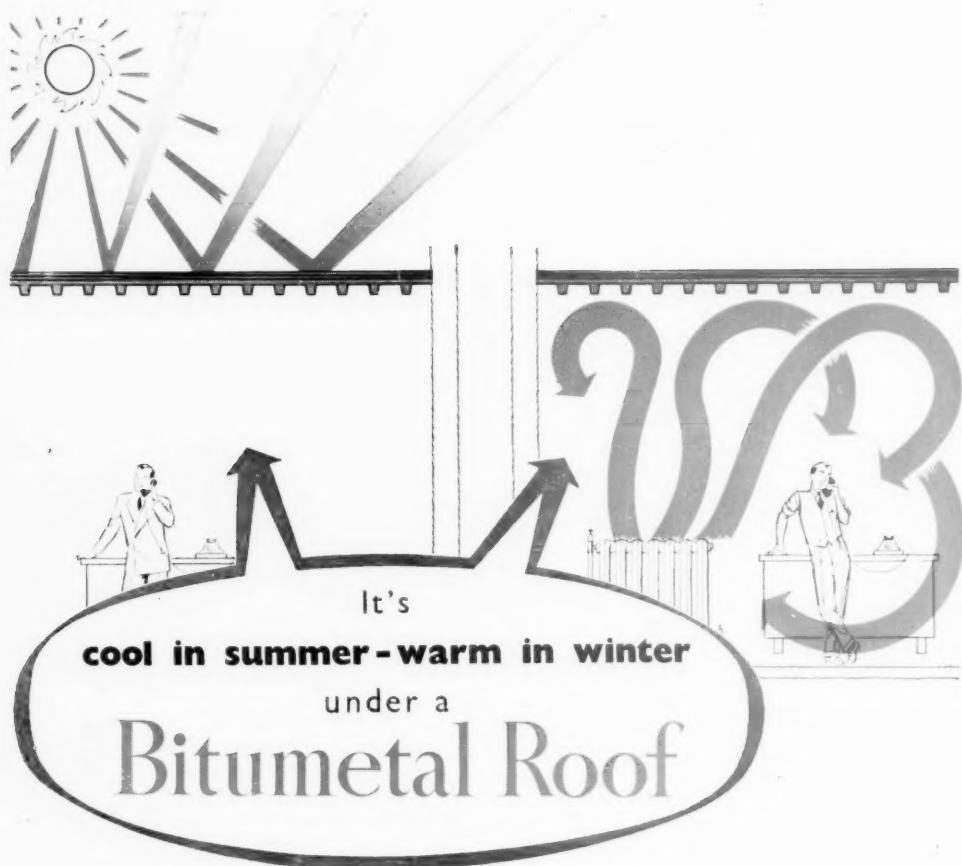
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It's
cool in summer - warm in winter
under a
Bitumetal Roof

A Bitumetal Roof is designed to conserve heat in winter and to exclude it in summer. Thus considerable saving in fuel can be effected and a comfortable working temperature maintained throughout the year. The complete Roof has a "U" value of 0.33 (National Physical Laboratory Report). If necessary extra insulation can be provided.

If you have not received your copy of "Bitumetal Information", write now to any of the undernoted Area Offices.

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Murrayfield Station

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Bitumetal is a roof plus ceiling



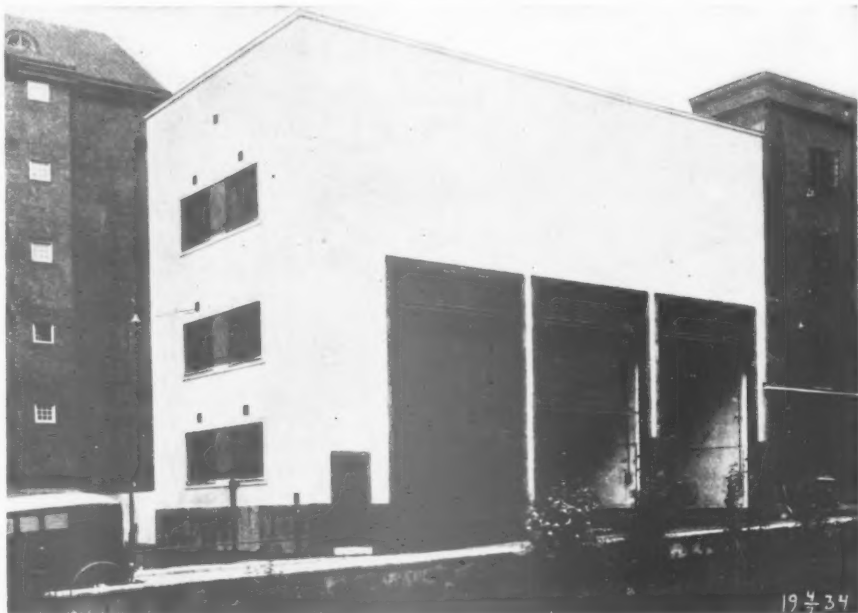
built up from aluminum decking, insulation board, and bitumen roofing. It is adaptable for flat, pitched, curved, or vertical construction.

A few more Points about Bitumetal -

- ★ Quickly erected.
- ★ Light, strong and rigid.
- ★ No painting or maintenance.
- ★ Bright reflective aluminium ceiling.

KINNEAR PATENT STEEL ROLLING SHUTTERS

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Stockholm's Elektricitetsverk: Ostermalm's Transformer Station, Stockholm.
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These Shutters are each 17' 6" high x 13' 8" wide.



Alliance & Dublin Consumers' Gas Company, Dublin: Meter and Cooker Factory.
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These Shutters are each 11' 0" high x 9' 0"-18' 9" wide.

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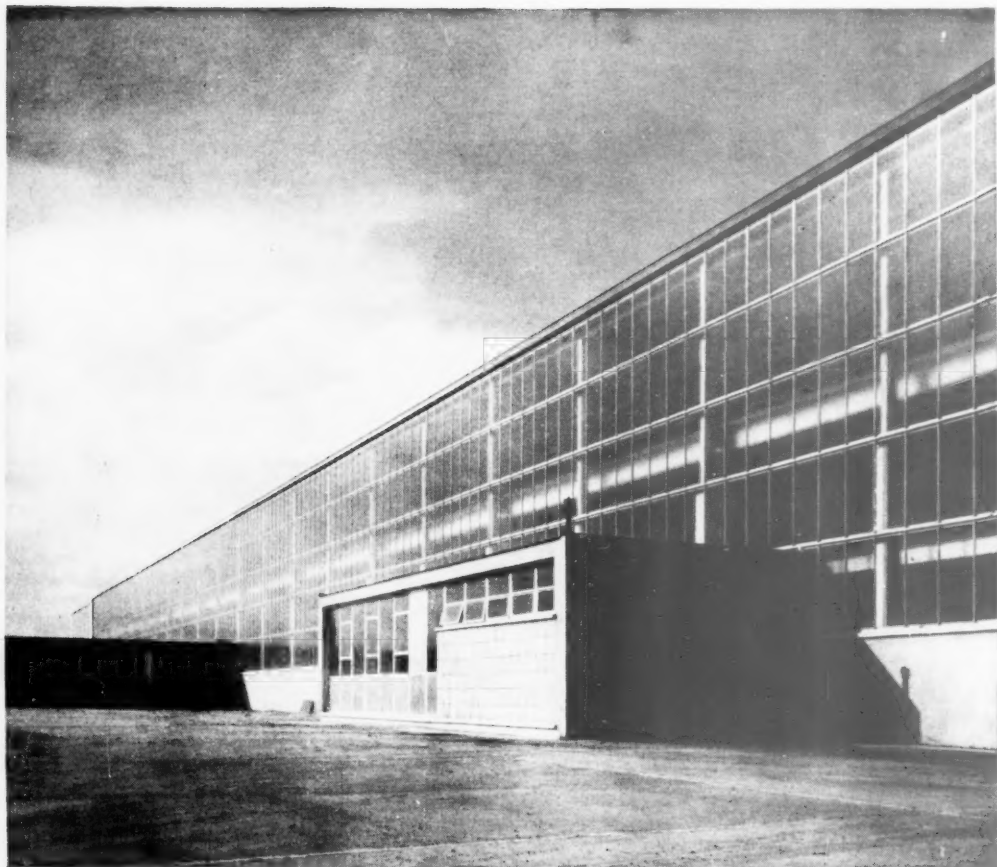
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FULL DAYLIGHT FOR FACTORY OPERATIVES

In both the designs featured — the Coras Iompair Eircann factory in Inchicore, Dublin, and the new steel furniture warehouse for Joseph Sankey & Sons in Wellington, Shropshire — the architects faced the problem of providing ceiling to floor daylight without impairing structural strength and graceful design. Each architect specified Aluminex Patent Glazing and the results have proved how completely successful Aluminex is in this kind of construction. Its slim bars and horizontal weathering members give the buildings clean simple lines and reduce light obstructions to an absolute minimum, giving the factory operatives full daylight for working.

Aluminex at Inchicore

The architect, Michael Scott, wished to provide full daylight within this factory, and at the same time to protect concrete cased structural members from the effects of weather. This was achieved by an Aluminex glass wall 254ft. long x 22ft. high holding 1 rough cast glass and attached to the outer faces of the stanchions. In addition to the advantages of daylight

and weather protection, this glass wall reveals the simple and impressive structural framework of the building.

Continuous Opening Lights with Positive Action

An interesting aspect of the 390 foot glass wall in Joseph Sankey & Sons' factory at Wellington is the use of opening lights 100 feet long (Aluminex continuous opening lights can be made of indefinite length

but are generally limited to 200 feet both for convenience and by gear limitations). The moving frame is hung on a continuous hinge running the full length of the light that cannot bind or warp (see diagram). The full 100 feet rises like a single pane. The lights are operated from a few remote control points by Teleflex gearing. This threaded cable system exerts a steady even pressure all along the light so that the hundredth foot gets the same pressure as the first foot. The light will stay steadily open at any desired position from 1° to 18° so that ventilation can be quickly and accurately controlled.

Coras Iompair—Eircann, Inchicore, Dublin.
Architect: MICHAEL SCOTT P.R.I.A.I.
Engineers: G.S. SERP & PARTNERS
Contractors: MESSRS G. & T. CRAMPTON LTD., Dublin.

The Aluminex Patent Glazing System

A word about the Aluminex Patent Glazing system (see diagram). The glazing bar is an example of good functional design. Its main web consists of a strengthening-ridge at the top, with ribs on each side

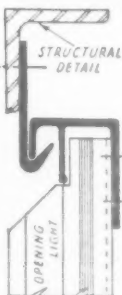
This Aluminex patent glazing bar is of extruded aluminium alloy of special composition. Here is seen one glazing cover strip holding a pane of glass in position on the top.



to hold a continuous cover strip. Internal condensation is carried outside the building by the integrated channels in the bar.

The continuous aluminium cover strip is scientifically profiled to fit between the rib of the glazing bar and the surface of the glass. It fits tightly but gives sufficiently in response to thermal movements to make a firm and safe glass grip in all conditions.

Economy is a strong factor in the ever increasing popularity of Aluminex.



This drawing shows the design of the continuous hinge used on the Aluminex opening lights. The head weathering makes flashings unnecessary.

Weathering produces a permanent protective patina on the surface of the aluminium alloy. Thus it does not rust or corrode. It needs neither initial painting, or subsequent repainting. Broken glass can

be replaced quickly and without difficulty.

The architect who turns to Aluminex Patent Glazing has at his service a method of architectural cladding capable of versatile applications. It is an accepted system yet remains susceptible to imaginative development. The company extends its fullest co-operation to all architects who wish to discuss new applications of Aluminex.

The Aluminex Division of

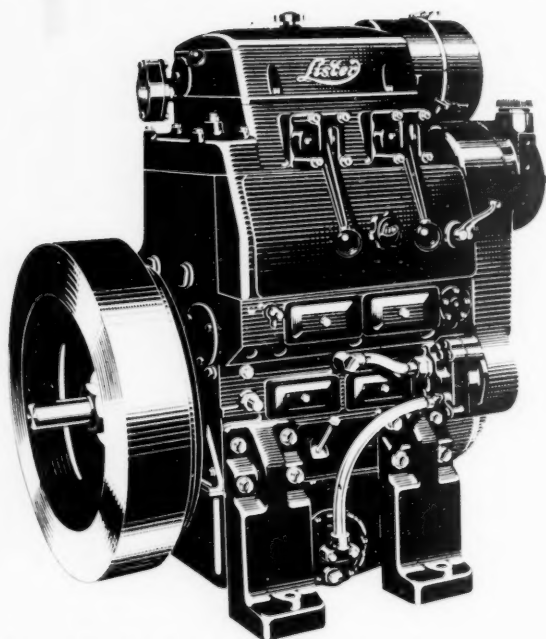
WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS

Extrusion Works - Chester



Joseph Sankey & Sons, Wellington Architects; HOWARD CRANE A.L.A., Contractors; WILSON LOVATT & SONS, LTD.

CONFIDENCE



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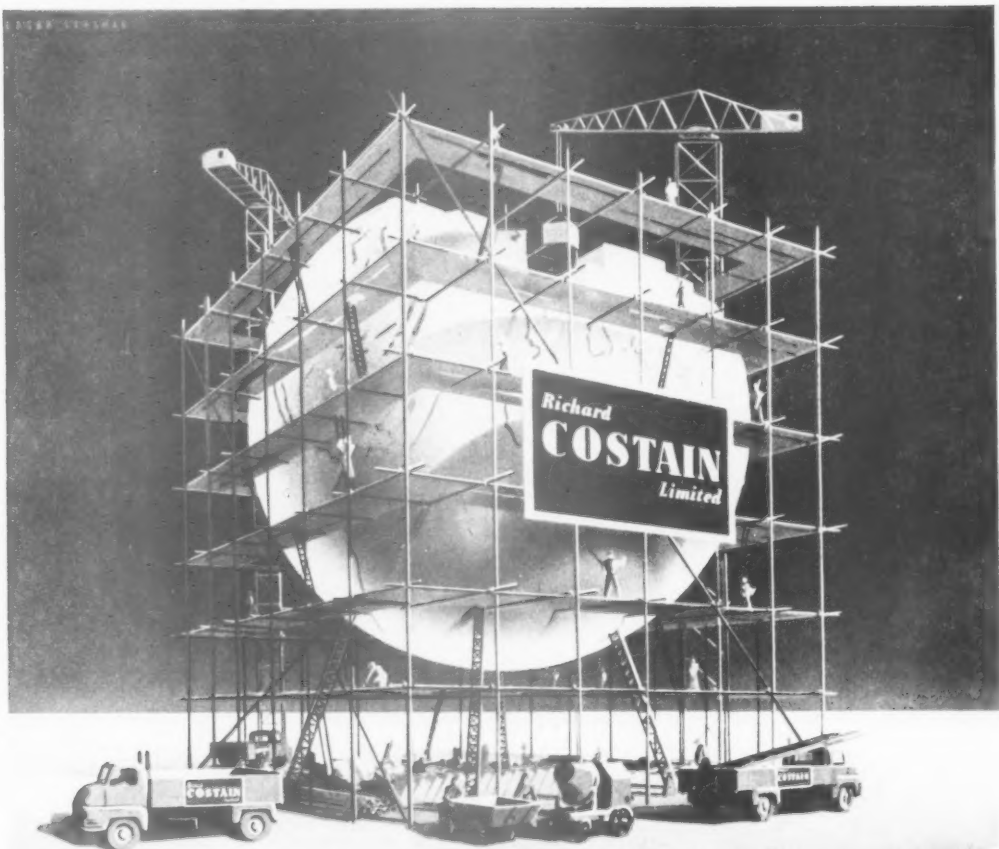
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Centrally heated flats at Harlow New Town

(Illustrated in this issue)

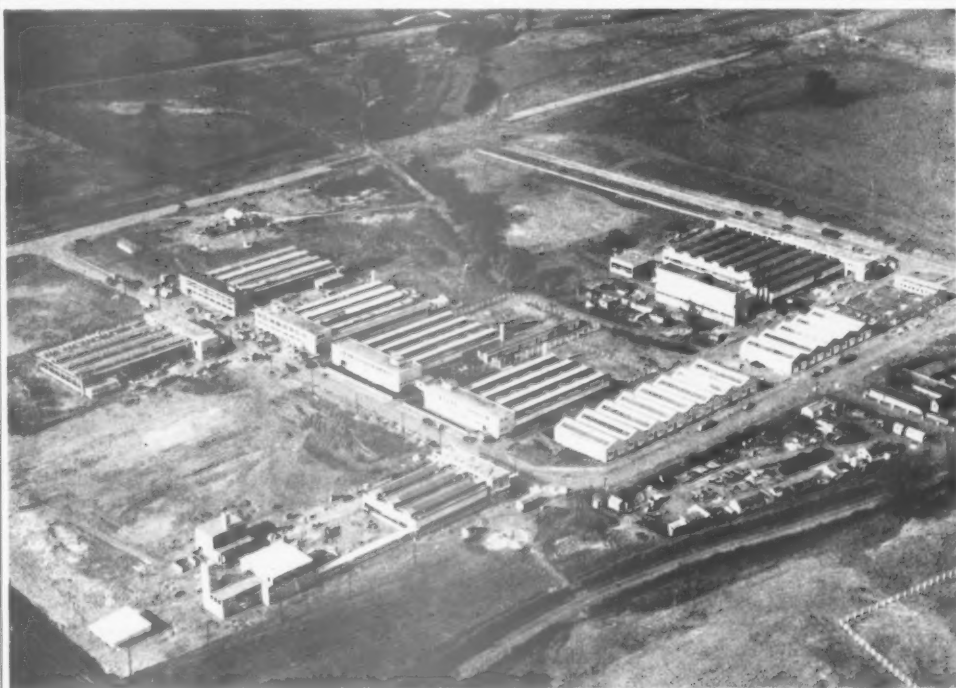
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INDUSTRIAL AREA
HARLOW NEW TOWN

(Illustrated in this issue)

Executive Architect: V. Hamnett, B.Sc., A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S

General Manager: W. Eric Adams, O.B.E.

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Ferodo Stairtreads supplied through British Iron & Steel Ltd.*

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Ferodo Stairtreads are designed primarily for lasting safety. Their gleaming nosing clearly outlines each step and inlaid Ferodo material ensures a firm, non-slip grip.

Ferodo Stairtreads have many other advantages too. They are manufactured in a range of colours that were specially chosen for their ability to harmonise with any flooring scheme. These colours are: green, blue, red, white and grey composition and also brown fabric. There is also a plain steel-backed industrial type. Thus, when you specify Ferodo Stairtreads, you can be sure that your colour scheme will be carried out as you visualised it and also be certain of fitting the safest, most hard-wearing Stairtreads obtainable.

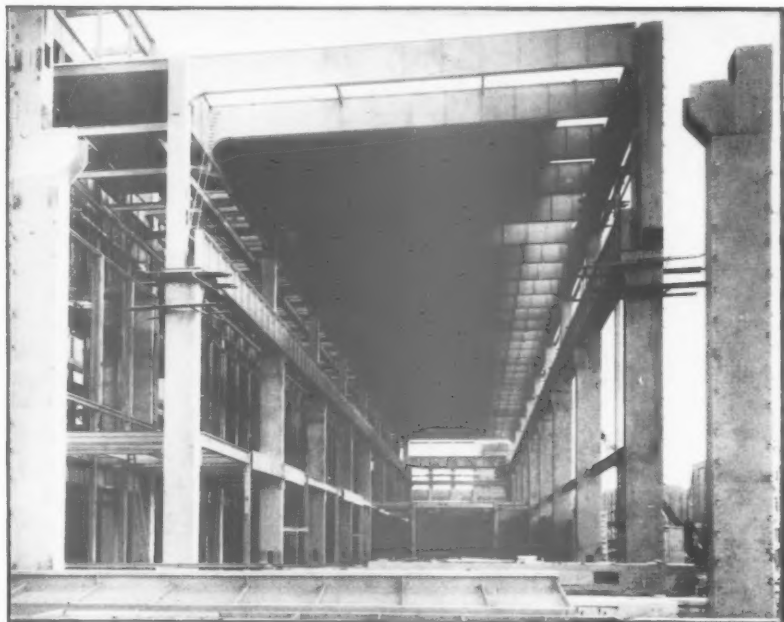
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Just ask for Publication No. 732.*

FERODOLIMITED-CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH

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F E R O D O
S T A I R T R E A D S

THE VERSATILITY OF STEELWORK



Power

A generating station is a complex structure which has to support heavy loads, permit assembly of cumbersome components, lend itself to modification or extension and, above all, remain a stable structure in the face of many conflicting factors.

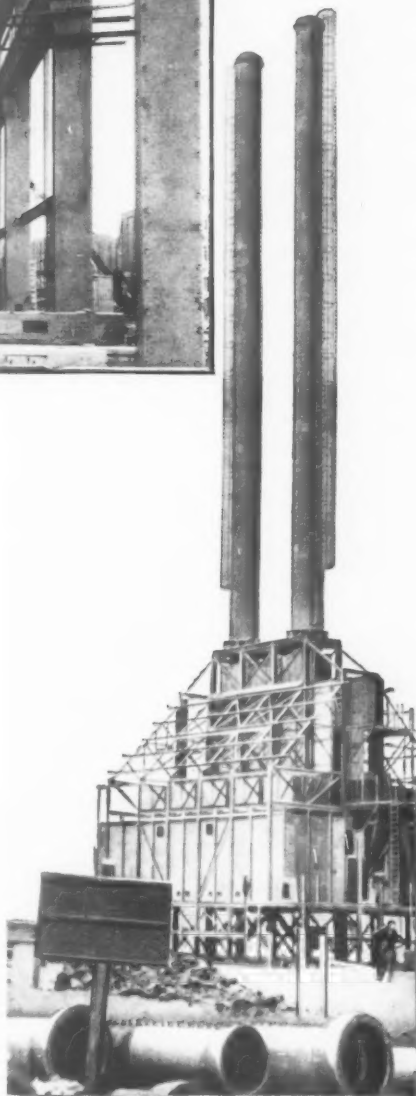
It is significant of the strength and security of steelwork, that, almost without exception, steam power stations are always of steel-framed construction.

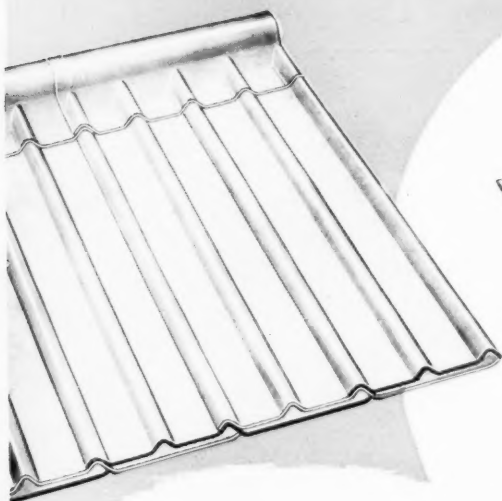
The lower illustration shows a link in another power chain; the furnace structure of a chemical plant. This weighs 130 tons and is chiefly of welded construction.



BCSA

BRITISH CONSTRUCTIONAL STEELWORK ASSOCIATION
ARTILLERY HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1



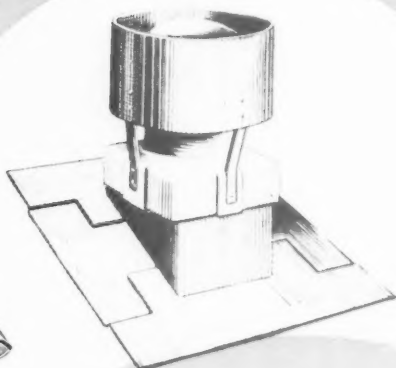


"TURNALL" REGD TRADE MARK COMBINED SHEETS (Asbestos — cement)

PAT. No. 416840

PAT. No. 472926

PAT. No. 472928

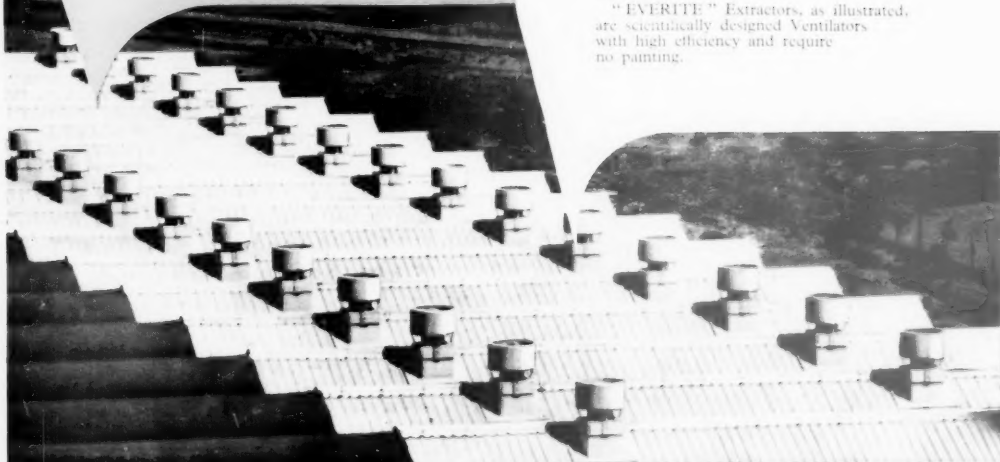


EVERITE[®] Asbestos-Cement VENTILATORS

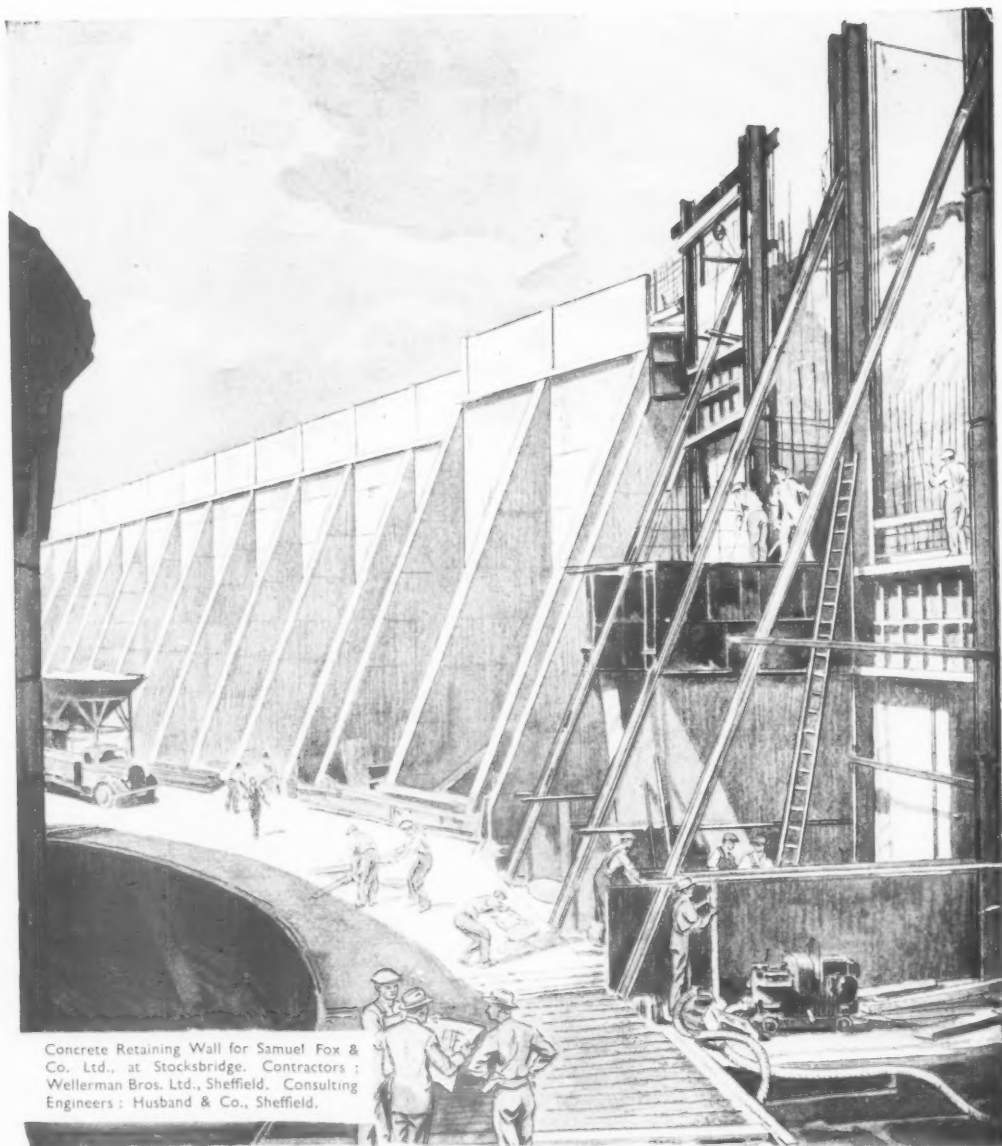
The photograph below shows part of the new Textile Extension of the British Rayon producing plant and forms a good example of the use of these two products.

"TURNALL" Combined Sheets provide double skin roofing with increased weather protection, strength and insulation.

"EVERITE" Extractors, as illustrated, are scientifically designed Ventilators with high efficiency and require no painting.



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Concrete Retaining Wall for Samuel Fox & Co. Ltd., at Stocksbridge. Contractors: Wellerman Bros. Ltd., Sheffield. Consulting Engineers: Husband & Co., Sheffield.

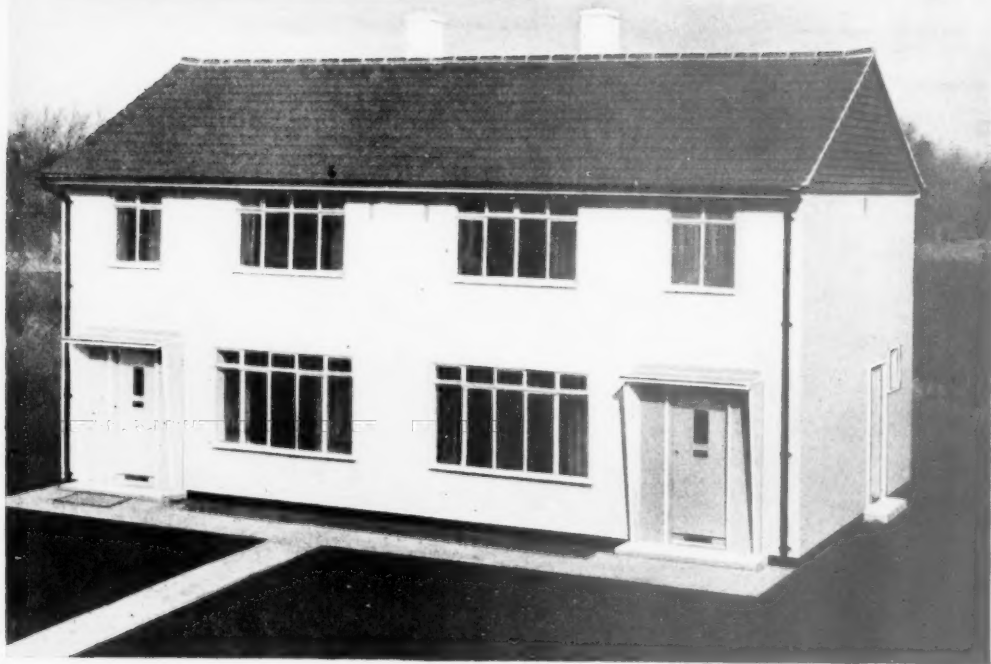
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Orlit buildings, through the collaboration of architects, are sound in construction and natural in their surroundings.

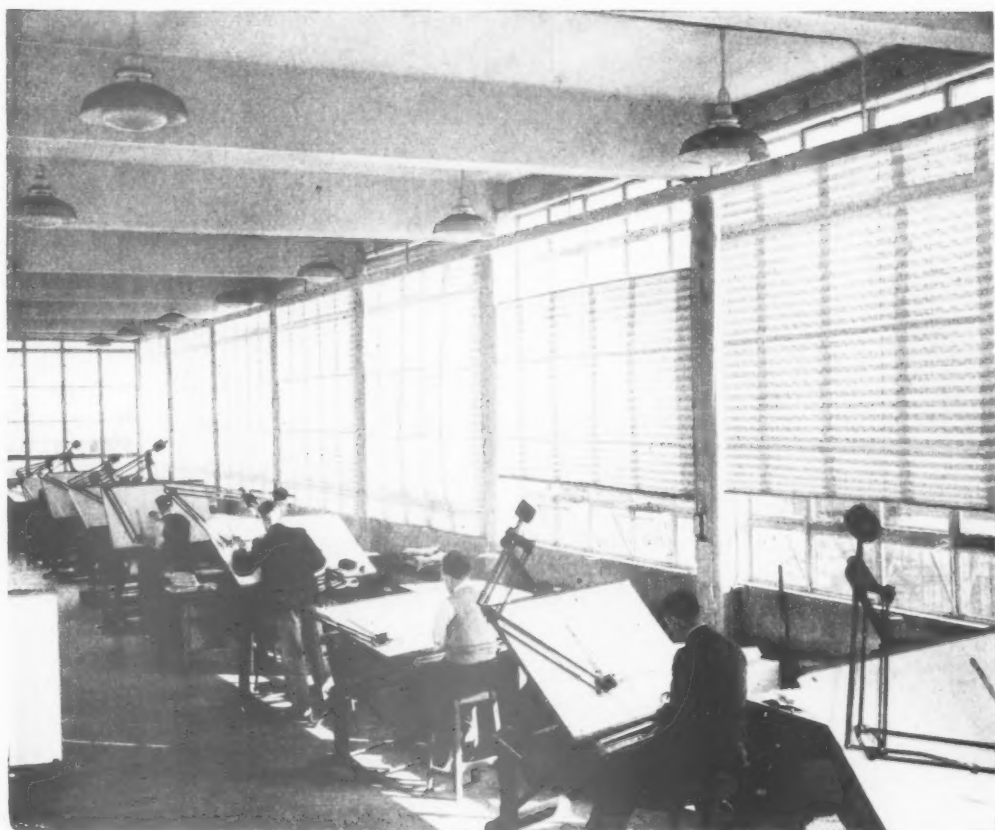
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ORLIT

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A feature of ACCORDO BLINDS is their dual purpose operation. They can be lowered from the top or raised from the bottom, ensuring light and shade wherever required. In addition, they enable air to be circulated from open windows without any distraction of flapping, for special guide rods hold the Blinds firm at either side against wind pressure. Efficient in operation, Accordo Blinds have a trouble-free gravity action in which springs and mechanical devices requiring frequent attention have been eliminated. When not in use, they are neatly and compactly housed at the top of the

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HILLS (WEST BROMWICH) LIMITED

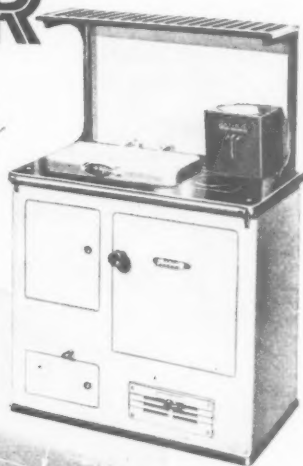
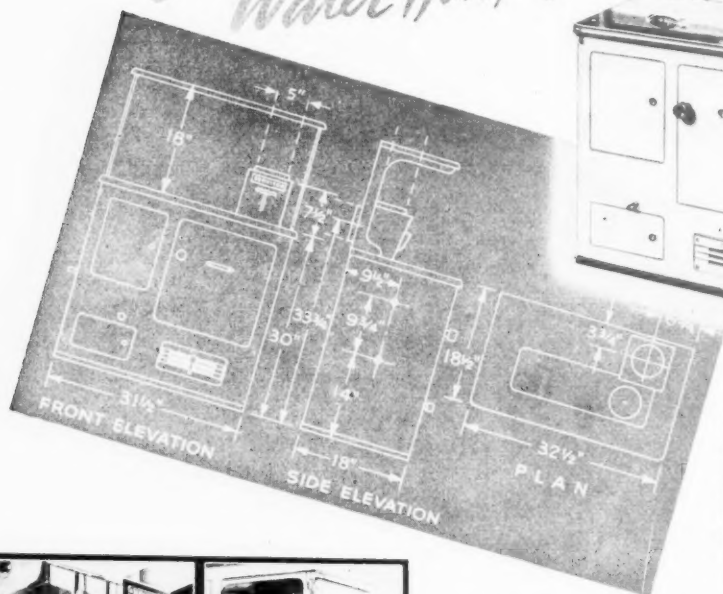
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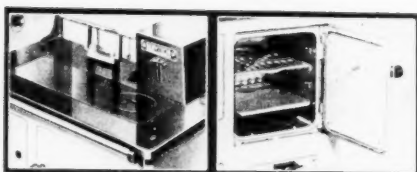
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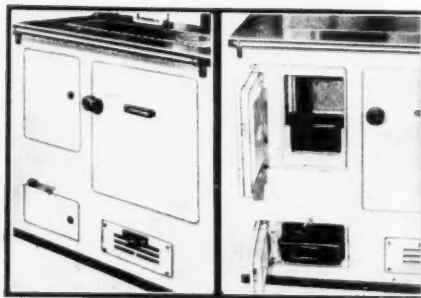


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Machine-faced hotplate. Mercury Thermometer. Machined doors for air-tightness. Large Oven. Simple Controls. Adaptable Flue Outlet for vertical or horizontal connection. Streamlined appearance.

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May we send you a brochure giving full details of this revolutionary new finish?

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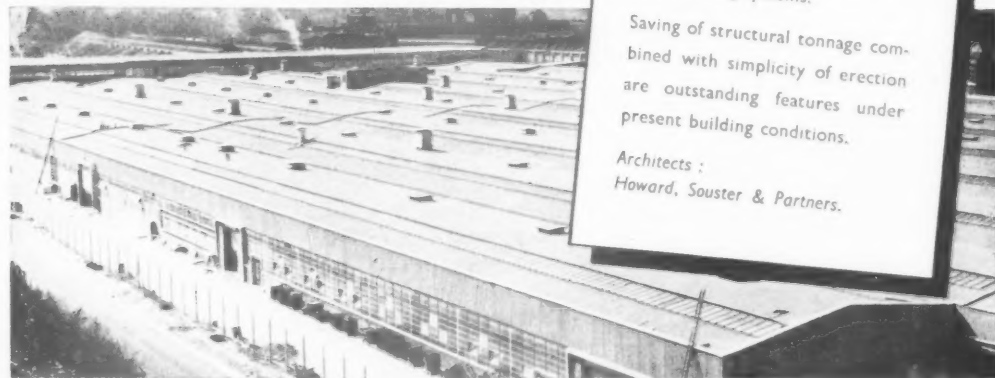
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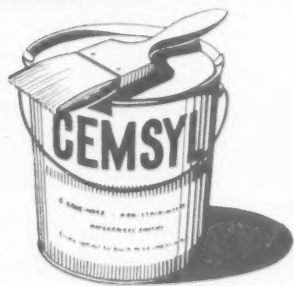
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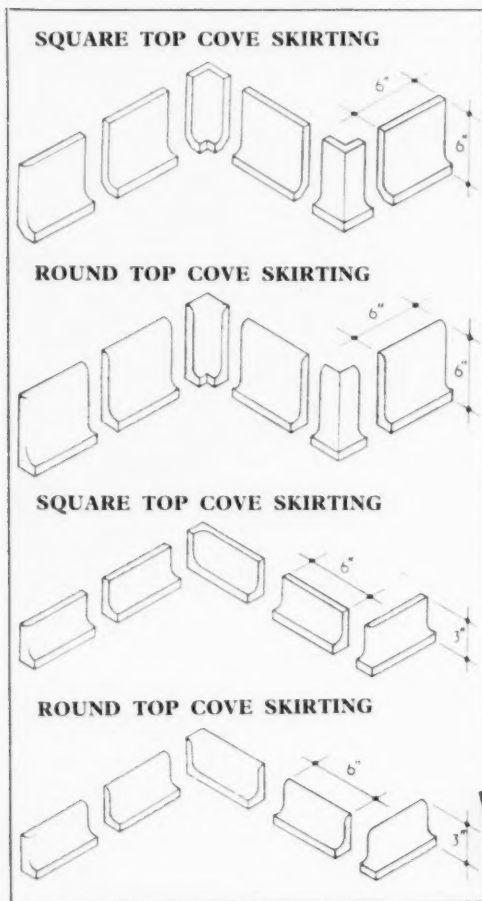
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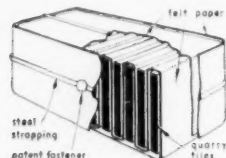
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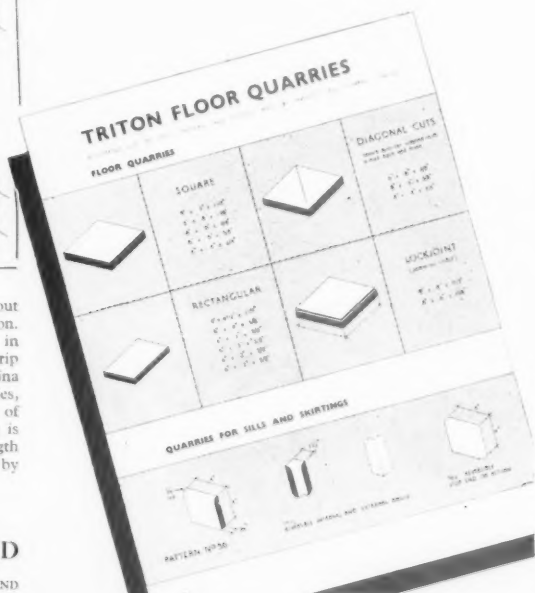
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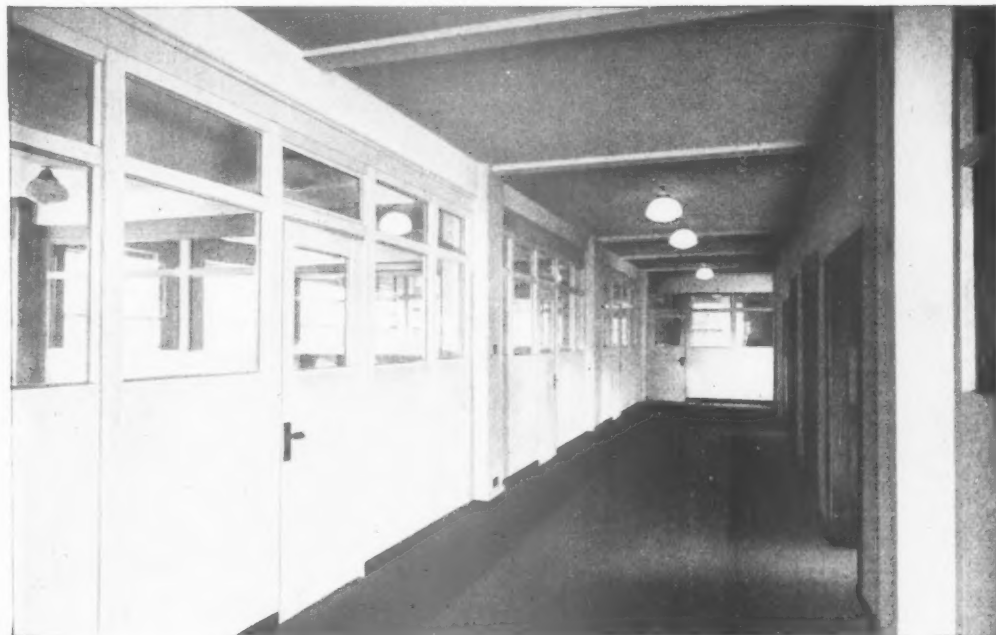
PATTERNS AND COLOURS

The illustrations (left) show a typical selection of quarry fittings which are available from stock. The range of colours is as follows: Red, Blue, Russet Brown and Buff.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further details of floor quarries and fittings will be forwarded upon request. This information leaflet illustrated below gives full details of the wide range of "TRITON" quarries and fittings which is available. Each pattern is illustrated with a 1/4th scale isometric drawing, and correct descriptions, key numbers and principal dimensions are included. The leaflet has been specially designed to simplify the problems of detailing in the drawing office and of ordering. A copy will be forwarded on request.





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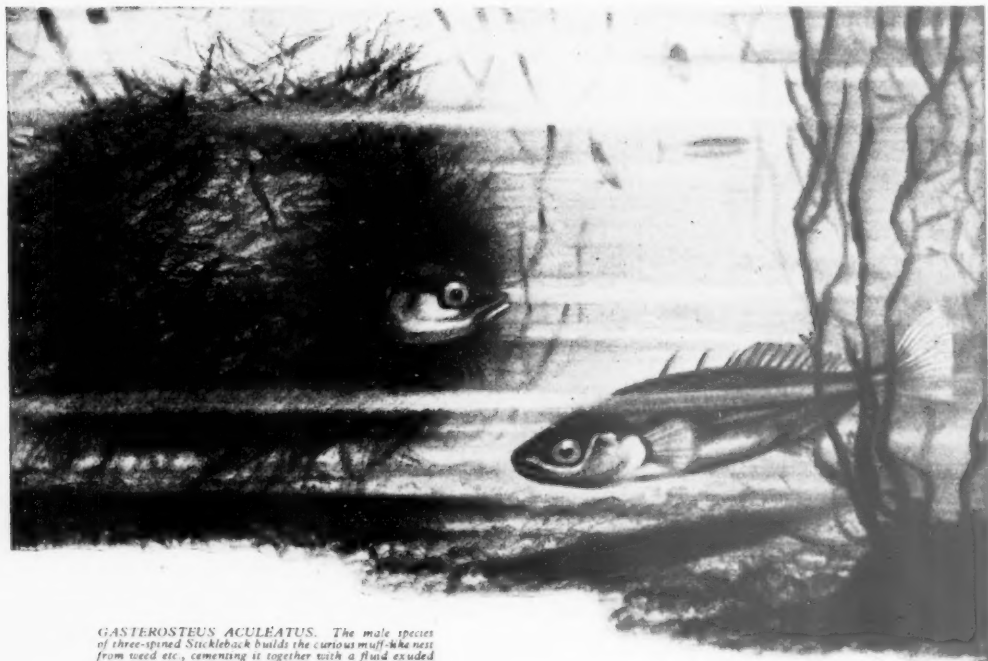


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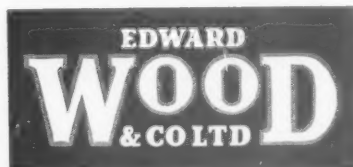
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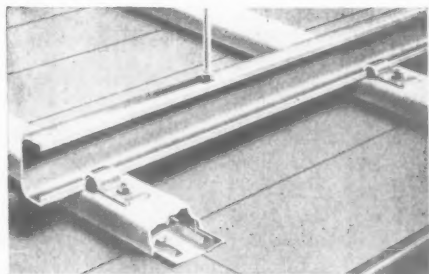
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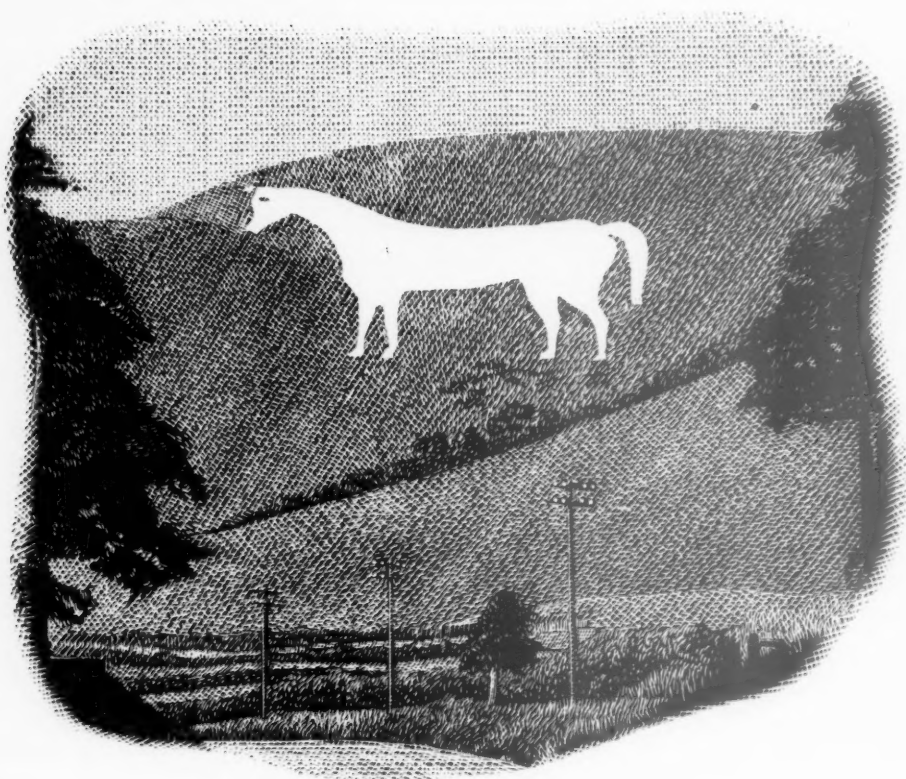
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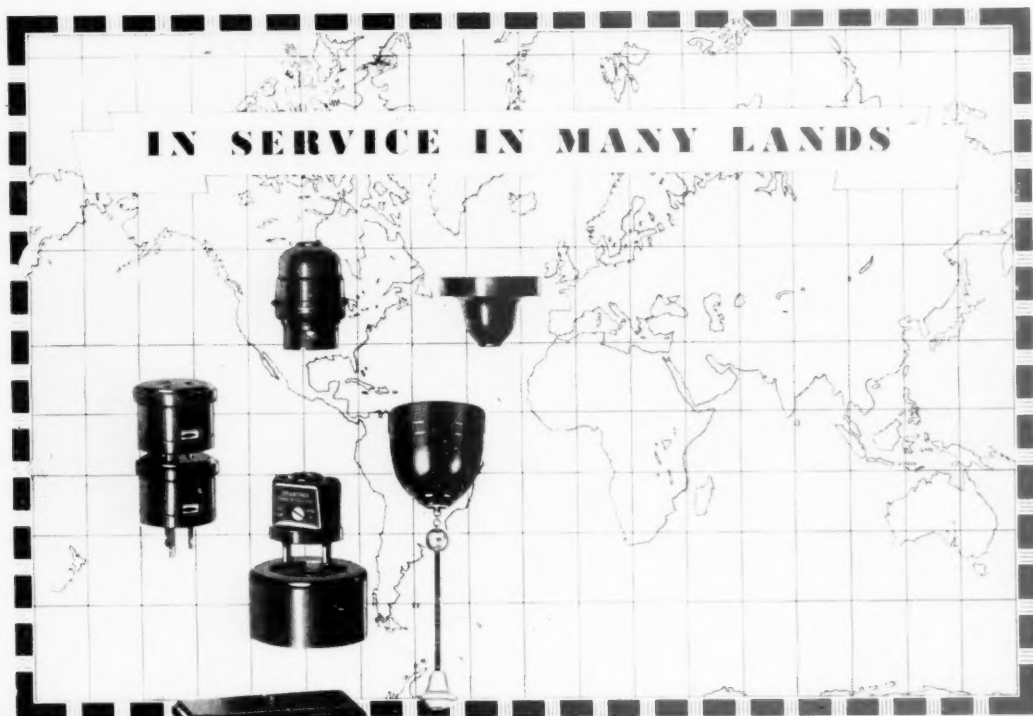
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The illustration above shows part of the Men's Slipper Baths at Wimbledon where Cementone No. 7 Gloss Finish was used for decorative work in 1936. This photograph was taken some 16 years later and shows how Cementone No. 7 has retained its superb high gloss finish after 16 years exposure to the severe conditions experienced in Public Baths. In 1934, tests were carried out by the "Decorator" Journal on all types of surface, including new plaster, new cement and asbestos sheeting. These tests proved the claims made that Cementone No. 7 was suitable for application to almost any type of building surface, eliminating the need for specifying special paints for different surfaces. Our claim, first made in 1934, that the "overall" decorative material had arrived, has been confirmed by thousands of contracts in all parts of the world and tests carried out by independent bodies.

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15th November, 1934

The Decorator

Brilliant Shades in

It goes for the shades in Windsor. But the best proof is to be found in the results of the tests carried out by the "Decorator" Journal on all types of surface, including new plaster, new cement and asbestos sheeting. These tests proved the claims made that Cementone No. 7 was suitable for application to almost any type of building surface, eliminating the need for specifying special paints for different surfaces. Our claim, first made in 1934, that the "overall" decorative material had arrived, has been confirmed by thousands of contracts in all parts of the world and tests carried out by independent bodies.

Cementone No. 7

REPORT ON EXPOSURE TESTS

On 15th March we received from Messrs. J. Freeman Sons & Co., Ltd., of "Cementone" a sample of their latest material, "Cementone No. 7". It is a synthetic paint, made in both glossy and flat finishes, with a special primer and undercoat, and is suitable for use on all surfaces, including new plaster, new cement and asbestos sheeting. It is claimed that this new Portland cement, asbestos sheeting, glass, and similar materials which automatically require when painted with ordinary linseed oil paint, would safely be decorated, while an additional advantage is that, as it could be applied equally successfully to wood, metal, brick and other surfaces, the one product could be used for walls, ceilings, doors and other surfaces.

It will be remembered that, in our April issue, we published a list of tests which we had carried out on the "Cementone No. 7", and that we undertook to publish the results. It may be remembered that the tests were carried out on a sample of the material, and that the results were as follows:—
1. The material was applied to a surface of new plaster, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including new plaster, new cement and asbestos sheeting.
2. The material was applied to a surface of old plaster, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including old plaster, old cement and asbestos sheeting.
3. The material was applied to a surface of wood, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including wood, metal, brick and other surfaces.
4. The material was applied to a surface of metal, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including metal, brick and other surfaces.
5. The material was applied to a surface of brick, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including brick and other surfaces.
6. The material was applied to a surface of glass, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including glass and other surfaces.
7. The material was applied to a surface of asbestos sheeting, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including asbestos sheeting and other surfaces.
8. The material was applied to a surface of Portland cement, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including Portland cement and other surfaces.
9. The material was applied to a surface of glass, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including glass and other surfaces.
10. The material was applied to a surface of asbestos sheeting, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including asbestos sheeting and other surfaces.

Correction

It will be remembered that, in our April issue, we published a list of tests which we had carried out on the "Cementone No. 7", and that we undertook to publish the results. It may be remembered that the tests were carried out on a sample of the material, and that the results were as follows:—
1. The material was applied to a surface of new plaster, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including new plaster, new cement and asbestos sheeting.
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3. The material was applied to a surface of wood, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including wood, metal, brick and other surfaces.
4. The material was applied to a surface of metal, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including metal, brick and other surfaces.
5. The material was applied to a surface of brick, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including brick and other surfaces.
6. The material was applied to a surface of glass, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including glass and other surfaces.
7. The material was applied to a surface of asbestos sheeting, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including asbestos sheeting and other surfaces.
8. The material was applied to a surface of Portland cement, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including Portland cement and other surfaces.
9. The material was applied to a surface of glass, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including glass and other surfaces.
10. The material was applied to a surface of asbestos sheeting, and was found to be perfectly suitable for use on all surfaces, including asbestos sheeting and other surfaces.



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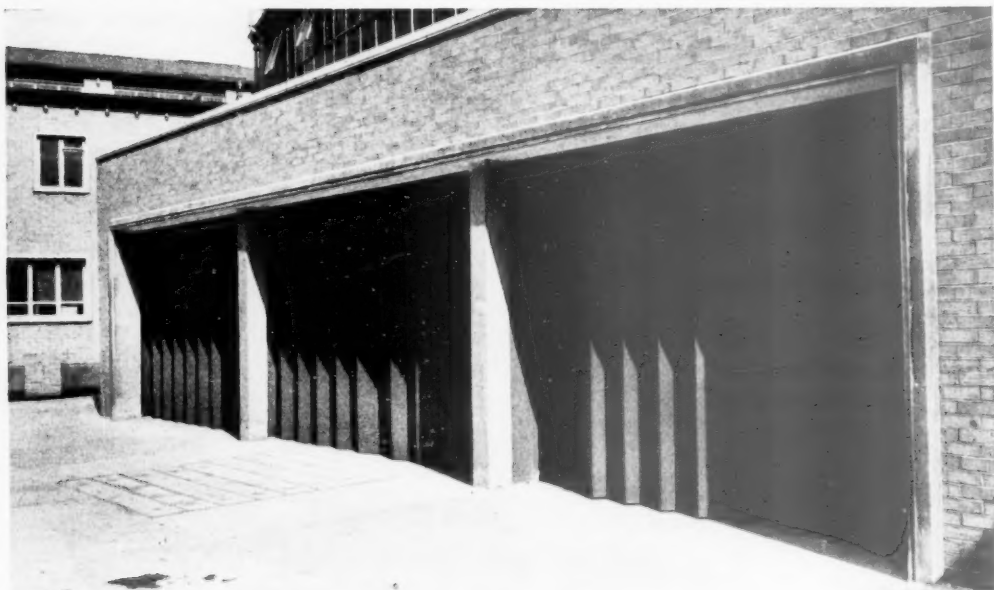
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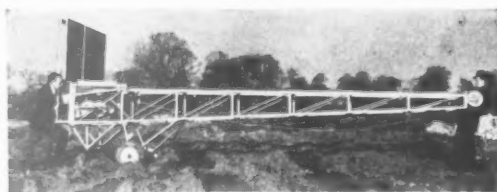
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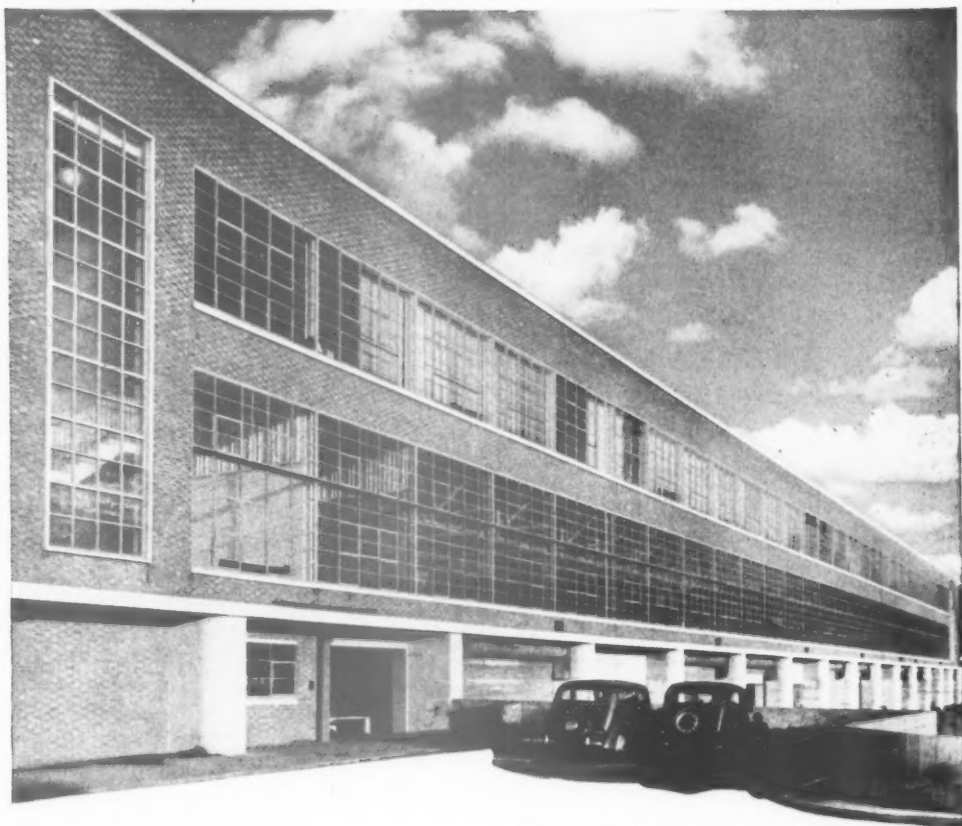
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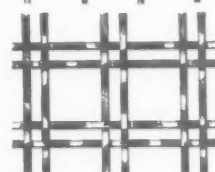
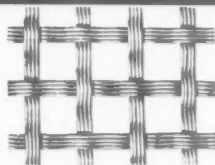
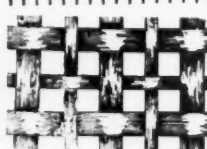
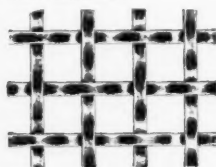
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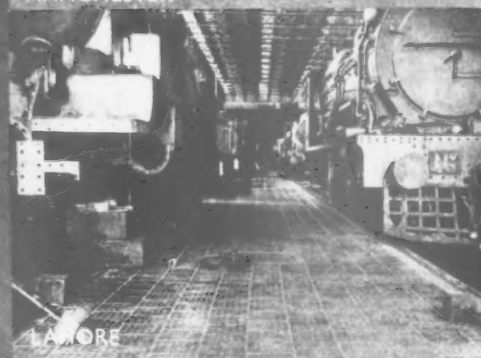
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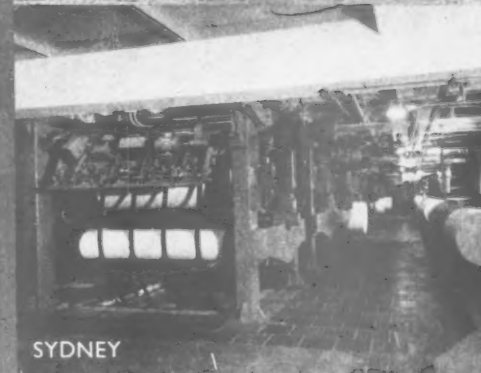
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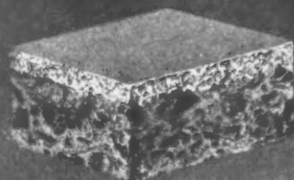
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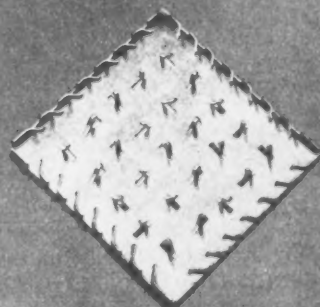


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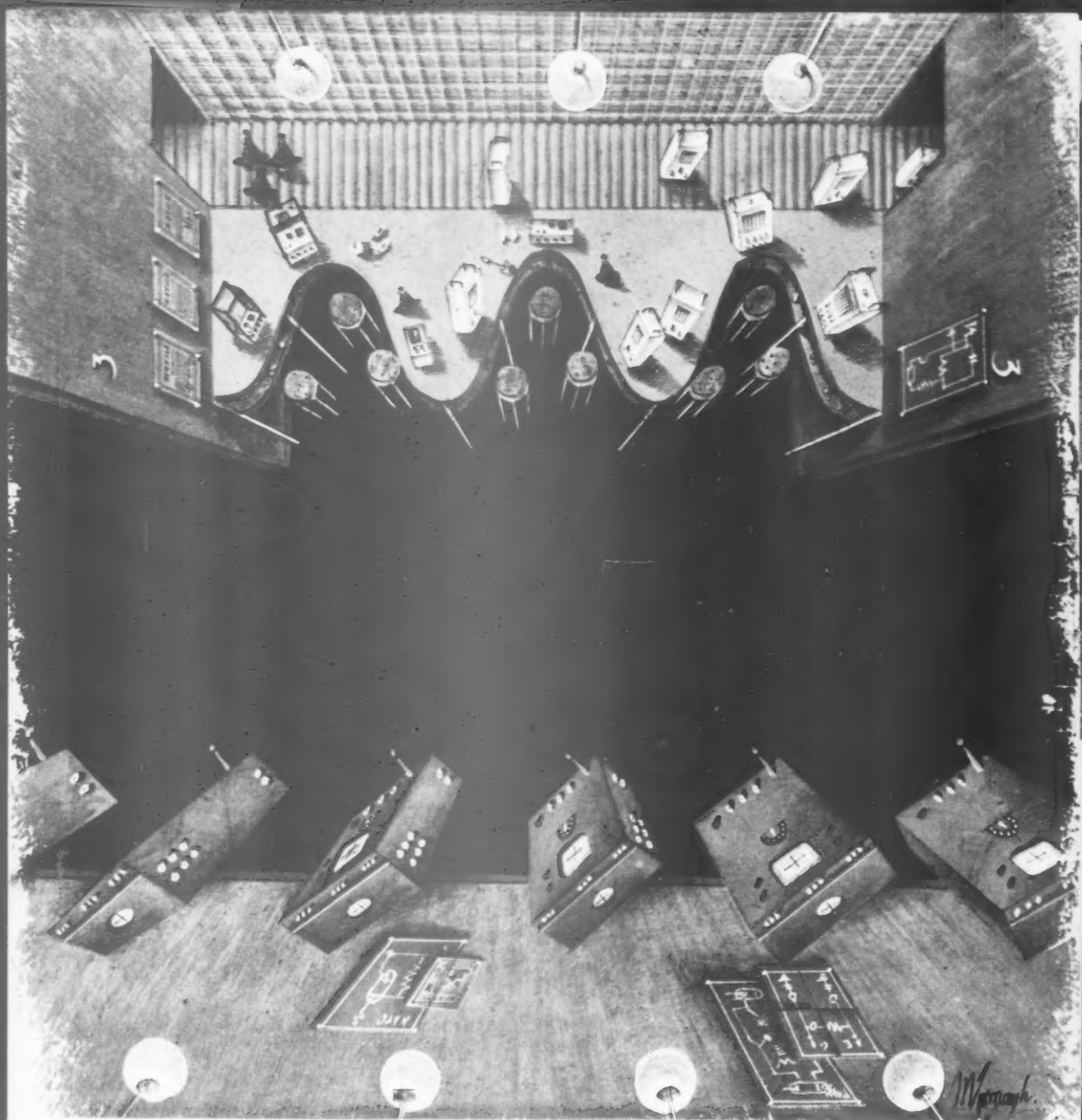
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Design for a Radio Assembly Room. From the original Collage by R. Myerscough-Walker.

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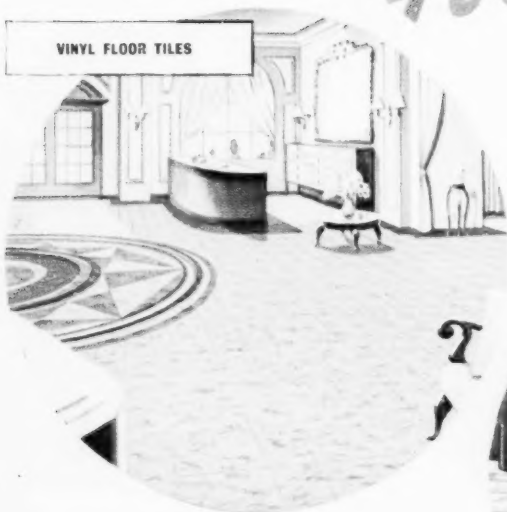
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Vol. 202 No. 4359

THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

July 3, 1952

The "Architect and Building News" incorporates the "Architect," founded in 1869, and the "Building News," founded in 1854. The annual subscription, inland and overseas, is £2 15s. 0d. post paid: U.S.A. and Canada \$9.00. Published by LILFEE & SONS LTD., DORSET HOUSE, STAMFORD STREET, LONDON, S.E.1. Telephone: WATERLOO 3333 (60 lines). Telegrams: "ARCHITONIA, SEDIST, LONDON."

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Photo: Aerofilms Ltd.

Aerial view showing Harlow Village and the industrial area north of the New Town in the background. Mark Hall North neighbourhood is left of the industrial area. A progress report on the New Town is featured on pages 6-24 of this issue.



Photo: Liverpool Daily Post and Echo

Professor and Mrs. Budden examining the score of "Colonnade" presented to them by Mr. John S. West, President of the Liverpool University Architectural Society.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Liverpool Ball

On Friday, June 13, in the University Students' Union, a Farewell Ball was given by the Liverpool University Architectural Society for Professor Lionel B. Budden, retiring after many years of service in the school, and self-styled "oldest inhabitant."

The Ball was attended by many students, ex-students and members of the staff of the school, who had spared time from the pressing end-of-session demands of theses, orals and exam. marking to honour their teacher and friend. Organized by Robin Butterroll, a Fourth Year student, it will be remembered as one of the most successful balls given by the school in recent years.

Décor, designed by David Ashdown, Anthony Beckles-Willson and M. J. Bacon, all Fourth Year students, was based on ingenious use of frames of scaffolding and tubing, through which hovered a profusion of flat planes of colour, mobiles and shapes, to produce an atmosphere altogether appropriate to an occasion of such architectural significance. In the course of the evening, the Professor awarded the scheme a "First Mention."

The Professor's first appearance at the Ball was in a small balcony overlooking the crowded Gilmour Hall, where a tense audience was already waiting to hear a performance of the Serenade specially commissioned by the Society as its parting gift.

The Serenade, composed by Mr. Hugo Cole and entitled "Colonnade," was performed by a small orchestra of

students, who were given valuable and perhaps necessary assistance by several principals from the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. It is an elegant work, of considerable feeling touched with an engaging wit, and worthy of a place in the repertoire of chamber orchestras.

After an encore of the Finale, in which "sadder feelings are forgotten in a general dance," the original score was presented to Professor Budden by John S. West, President of the Liverpool University Architectural Society.

Norwich Summer School

The Norwich Arts Federation, an alliance of all the various artistic and scientific bodies of the Norfolk capital city, held its annual Summer School this year at Raynham Hall, near Fakenham, the seat of the Marquess Townshend. The guests and delegates were welcomed by Lord and Lady Townshend and in the morning a paper was presented by Mr. S. Rowland Pierce, F.R.I.B.A., on the subject "Inigo Jones and William Kent: their architectural association with Norfolk and Raynham."

Mr. Pierce, in the course of his talk, outlined the various traditions for the attribution of the design of Raynham to Inigo Jones and showed how slight was the direct evidence for the tradition, at the same time indicating the possibilities for its correctness, having regard to the very advanced type of plan and detail shown in the existing building. He traced also some of the stages of development through which the house went in the period between the original building, 1622 to 1634, and the remodelling of the interior by William Kent a century later.

In the afternoon Dr. Arthur Bryant,

C.B.E., addressed the Federation on the subject of "Our National Tradition," a lively dissertation which ranged over the history and traits of the English for a thousand years.

After detailed tours of the Hall, its grounds and Church, the day ended with a chamber concert of instrumental music and a programme provided by the Garth Madrigal Singers, one of the federated associations.

The Summer School was very well attended by representatives from Norwich and the district and the fact that it was held on the exact day, June 21, of the three-hundredth anniversary of the death of Inigo Jones, added to the interest of the occasion.

Building Wage Claim and Sliding Scale

Mr. J. Ian Robertson (of Burton-on-Trent), President of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, speaking at the Half-Yearly Meeting of the South Wales Federation of Building Trades Employers, held at Porthcawl on June 25, said, I regret very much that at their conference last week the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives decided to press for a "substantial" pay increase. The building industry is one of the few industries in which wages are linked by a sliding scale with the cost-of-living through the Retail Prices Index. This scale was agreed by the Employers and Operatives after careful consideration, and if the latter are dissatisfied with it they should press either for its abolition or for its revision, instead of trying to ride two horses at once by putting forward claims for wages increases over and above those which accrue under the scale. It seems to me that contractors, in the interests not only of themselves but of the general public, who have eventually to foot the bill, can have no alternative but to resist such claims.

C.O.I.D. Appointments

The Board of Trade announce that the President has appointed the Right Honourable Lady Sempill, Miss Mary Grieve, Mr. George Breeze, Mr. Lynton H. Lamb and Mr. Walter Lines to be members of the Council of Industrial Design. He has also reappointed Mr. Geoffrey Dunn, Mr. Leslie Gamage, M.C., Mr. John Gloag, Mr. G. W. Lacey, C.B.E., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Sir William Palmer, K.B.E., C.B., Major F. J. Stratton, C.B.E., and Dr. W. J. Worboys, B.Sc., Ph.D., to be members of the Council on the termination of their existing appointment.

The President has also appointed Mr. W. D. Ritchie, O.B.E., M.A., F.E.I.S., to be a member of the Scottish Committee of the Council of Industrial Design. The Right Honourable Lady Sempill, Mr. J. Douglas Hood, Mr. J. McMurtrie Kay and Mr. Andrew Nairn have been reappointed to the Scottish Committee on the termination of their existing appointment.

R.I.B.A. Sub-Committee Appointed

The Salaried and Official Architects Committee of the R.I.B.A. have appointed a Sub-committee to consider and advise on measures that might be taken to provide effective representation of salaried architects and architectural assistants in all negotiations affecting their conditions of service and salaries. Any recommendation of the Committee would, of course, be subject to the approval of the R.I.B.A. Council.

International Union of Architects

International Competitions

(a) Entries are invited by the Town Council of Turku (Aabo) in Finland for a layout plan for the island of Ruissalo and the neighbouring islands belonging to the town. Details of the competition, which has been approved by the International Union of Architects, can be obtained from the Town Council of Turku.

(b) The results of the international competition for the town planning design of Izmir (Smyrna) have been announced. Prizes were awarded as follows:—

First prize: Professor Kemal Ahmet Aarii and his assistants Gunduz Ozdes and Emin Canpulat, architects of Istanbul.

Second prize: Architect Alexander Freiherr von Branca and his assistant, Reinhold Wierl, of Munich.

Third prize: Architect Rauf Beyra, of Ankara.

International Conference of Artists

Plans for the International Conference of Artists to be held at Venice from September 22-28 under the auspices of U.N.E.S.C.O. are now being drawn up by the Conference's organizing committee.

The Committee have agreed that participants should be, first, artists designated by Member States; second, artists designated by the appropriate international organizations; and third, independent artists in the capacity of observers, to be invited by the U.N.E.S.C.O. Secretariat.

A special section of the Conference will be devoted to architecture, and the following topics for discussion at section meetings have been provisionally arranged.

(a) Trade union and professional problems (copyright, regulations for international competitions, etc.).

(b) International Exhibitions of Architecture.

(c) Movement of architects (facilities for travel, accommodation, cultural exchanges, etc.).

(d) Encouragement of a wider public understanding of architecture and town planning.

It has been agreed that the working languages for the Conference shall be French and English, but that speeches may also be made in Italian.

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Highly Commended, 97, Jack Tomlinson, DIPL. ARCH. (LIVERPOOL), A.R.I.B.A., 183, N. H. Notley, DIPL. ARCH., A.R.I.B.A. D. W. Notley, B.A.R.C.H., A.R.I.B.A.

B. Suburban or Neighbourhood Service Station

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Highly Commended, 184, Margaret A. Paul, A.R.I.B.A. 95, Frederick Thomas, B.A.R.C.H., A.R.I.B.A. Jan Cybulski, DIPL. ARCH., A.M.T.P.I.

C. Main Motorway Service Station

First No. 210, G. M. Crockett, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

Second 382, Alan Reiaich, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. Ralph Cowan, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. T. R. Spaven, A.R.I.B.A.

Highly Commended, 403, Philip Brown, B.A.R.C.H., A.R.I.B.A., in association with Gordon Elliott, 335, Paul Boissevain, DIPL. ARCH., M.S.I.A. Barbara Osmond, A.R.I.B.A., in association with Horacio Caminos.

The total number of designs received was five hundred and eighteen.

The Assessors:

David du R. Aberdeen, B.A., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

D. A. Birchett, A.R.I.B.A.
Frederick Gibberd, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

Housing Production Board for London

The Housing Production Board for the London Region has been set up. The members of the Board are:—

Independent Chairman: Sir Alan Saunders, O.B.E., Chairman, British Sugera Corporation, Ltd., formerly Co-ordinator of Building Supplies, Ministry of Health.

Representatives of the Building Trades Employers: Mr. Nigel Hannen, Director of Holland & Hannen & Cubitts, Ltd.; Mr. H. E. Comben, O.B.E., Director of Comben & Waking, Ltd., building and public works contractors.

Representatives of the Building Trades Operatives: Mr. H. J. Adams, President of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers; Mr. E. L. Jones, M.B.E., London Regional Secretary of the N.F.B.T.O.

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Representative: Mr. A. S. Charlton, C.B.E.

Ministry of Labour and National Service: Mr. H. R. Whiteman, C.B.E.
Ministry of Works: Mr. A. P. Humby.

The Board's terms of reference are:—

"To bring all those concerned in house-building in the Region into closer consultation and co-operation so as to keep local housing programmes and their development under constant review and advise on the measures necessary to secure their punctual completion."

All the Regional Housing Production Boards for England and Wales have now been established.

Intermediate Design Prize Competition

In the United Kingdom 400 competitors took part in the Intermediate Design Prize *en loge* Competition.

The following competitors have been selected to proceed with the final drawings for the competition: D. S. Appleyard (Dept. of Architecture, The Northern Polytechnic); J. W. Cooper (Dept. of Architecture, The University of Sheffield); G. B. Gray (School of Architecture, The Edinburgh College of Art); R. Latham (School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester); R. B. Lord (School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester); P. H. Meecham (School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester); J. M. Moore (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London); M. E. Rutledge (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London); R. Tree (Dept. of Architecture, The Brighton College of Art and Crafts); J. Wells-Thorpe (Dept. of Architecture, The Brighton College of Art and Crafts).

The Victory Scholarship Competition
In the United Kingdom 156 com-

Forthcoming Technical Conferences

June 25-July 5, in Stockholm.—International Commission on Rules for the approval of Electrical Equipment.

August 20-28, in Istanbul.—Eighth International Congress on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics.

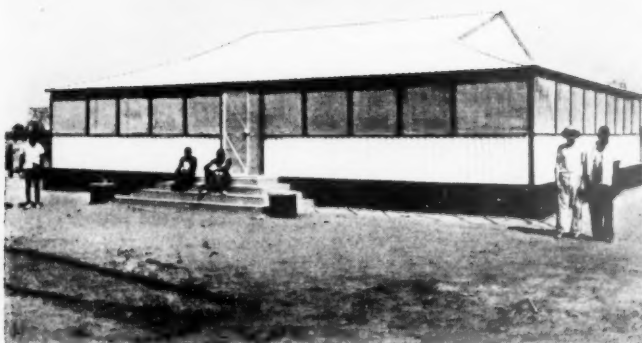
September 8-15, in Algiers.—Nineteenth Session of International Geological Congress.

Secretaryship of the United Kingdom Committee of the International Union of Architects

Mr. J. F. Cullis will take over the Secretaryship of the United Kingdom Committee of the International Union of Architects from the present Secretary Mr. W. R. Ellis with effect from July 1.

The R.I.B.A. will continue to be responsible for the administration of the United Kingdom Committee and the address will remain c/o R.I.B.A., 66, Portland Place, W.1.

CORRESPONDENCE



The "Alframe" Bungalow for export constructed by Structural & Mechanical Development Engineers Limited. Factory-made this aluminium Bungalow is readily shipped and erected where needed. A wide veranda surrounds all sides and provides a large open-air space under cover. It is enclosed with mosquito netting and the lower half is sheeted with aluminium and lined with hard-board, so that it can be used for living and sleeping quarters.

petitors took part in the Victory Scholarship *en loge* Competition.

The following competitors have been selected to proceed with the final drawings for the competition: C. Bramwell (School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne); F. H. Brown (School of Architecture, The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London); R. W. Brunskill (School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester); R. Clementson (School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne); H. E. M. Dobson (School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne); M. C. Edwards (School of Architecture, University of Sheffield); I. M. Samuel (School of Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art).

Landscape Design Scholarship

Mr. I. R. Cunningham, a student of King's College, University of Durham, has been awarded an Exchange Scholarship of the Netherlands under the Anglo-Dutch Cultural Convention, to the University of Wageningen in Holland.

Mr. Cunningham is a student in the Department of Town and Country Planning, and studying for the Diploma in Landscape Design of the University of Durham, and he will continue his study of the subject at Wageningen. Before entering King's College, Mr. Cunningham had trained as an architect at the Architectural Association School in London.

Both the Universities of Durham and Wageningen are pioneers in the new approach to the study of Landscape Design, extending the range of the subject to include the development of the

rural landscape as a whole with afforestation, national parks and the restoration of mineral extraction sites occupying important places in the syllabus.

The King's College Course in Landscape Design commenced in 1950 and is the only course in Britain recognized for exemption from the Final Examination of the Institute of Landscape Architects. Mr. Cunningham is the second student to win an international scholarship. Last year, Mr. Lewis Clarke gained the Smith-Mundt Fellowship to continue his studies in Landscape Design at Harvard University in the U.S.A.

Reappointment of Members of Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield Development Corporations

The Minister of Housing and Local Government, Mr. Harold Macmillan, has reappointed for a period of one year the Chairman and five members of the Development Corporations for the New Towns of Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield. He has accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. P. E. Longmore, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., who was formerly Clerk of the Hertfordshire County Council and has been a member of the two Corporations since July, 1948.

Mr. R. G. Gosling has been reappointed Chairman, but the former Deputy Chairman, Mr. R. L. Reiss, has asked to be relieved of this office although he is continuing as a member. Mr. C. G. Maynard has been appointed Deputy Chairman in his place.

Coventry Cathedral

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—I have read, and I must confess with amusement, a letter from a New (Student) Architect in your June 19 issue in reply to that from Mr. Gervase Bailey.

History repeats itself. The fierce battle of the "styles" which raged in the last century appears to have revived. My amusement, however, is tempered with sorrow and a sense of foreboding for the future of our mistress art, that is if the New (Student) Architect is typical of his kind. After all, humility and a becoming reticence are necessary in everyday life and in architecture.

I sincerely hope that the society for which Sir G. G. Scott, Sir Edwin Lutyens and their contemporaries built is not defunct. It produced Liverpool Cathedral, the Cenotaph, and the cream of our domestic architecture. However, "New (Student) Architect" need have no fear; they will not be followed. Genius flowers but once in every few generations, and there is little evidence that architecture is to be thus favoured in this generation.

I am, etc.,

F. G. GOODIN.

Part-time Builders

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—Are the "week-end and evening jobbing builders and decorators" causing loss of business to bona-fide members of the trade?

Can anything be done to avoid unfair competition by "part-time builders?"

My tobacconist, with a flourishing business, thinks decorating and building repairs are too high. He quotes as an example the manner in which he is "forced" to get his work done. "... a building firm," he says, "wants £60 to decorate the outside of two flats I own ... more than I can afford ... so I buy the paint and get a man to paint the flats in his spare time. ... I save over thirty pounds. ... I'm satisfied and so also is the man."

It would be interesting to know how widespread this undesirable state of affairs is and what steps have been taken to counteract it.

I am, etc.,

JOSEPH W. CHARGE.

A scholarship awarded annually to a student of Angus or Dundee, by the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, has been won by Mr. James Derek Allan, a third-year student at the School of Architecture, Dundee. The scholarship, which is valued at 2,000 dollars a year for five years, plus travel, is tenable at Cornell University, New York State.

IN PARLIAMENT

Licence-free Limit

The Government have at length announced their intentions about the licence-free limit on building work. The existing limit of £500 for industrial and agricultural buildings is to remain in force for a further 12 months from July 1, but the limit on other buildings is to be raised from £100 to £200. "Industrial buildings" covers, in general terms, factories and workshops, but does not include commercial premises, shops, banks, offices, warehouses and the like; "agricultural buildings" includes all farm buildings except the farmhouse and the farm-workers' cottages.

Announcing this decision on June 24, Mr. Eccles, Minister of Works, said that he had examined carefully the possibility of increasing the free limits, but the potential demand for building and repair work was so great, and the load on the industry differed so much from district to district, that it had been found impossible to make a general relaxation of the licensing system. The position will be reviewed in the autumn, and if conditions justify a change, another order will be made. In issuing licences for repair and maintenance above the free limits, he said, careful regard will be taken of the load of work in the area concerned.

The Minister was confronted with some Labour assertions that the doubling of the limit would entail a substantial inroad on the already short building labour and as a result seriously impinge on the house construction programme. His answer was that a sufficient volume of maintenance actually helped the construction of new houses, because it enabled the small and medium builder to dovetail some maintenance work with new construction; and that the amount of under-employment in the building industry due to the Government's financial policy was somewhat increasing. He had no doubt himself that this very modest increase would not result in any decrease in house construction. The free limit of £500 for industrial buildings is in addition to any block maintenance licence.

Brick Production

Turning from houses to bricks, Mr. Eccles was questioned by Mr. Mulley about the percentage increase in the average monthly production of fletton and non-fletton bricks, respectively, for the period January 1 to April 30, compared to the average of the previous four months. He replied that in the last four months of a year production might be expected to be higher than in the first four months when the weather was at its worst. But this winter the average monthly production of fletton bricks in January to April, 1952, was 4.0 per cent higher than in September to December, 1951. Non-fletton brick production during the same period was 1.7 per cent less than for the last four months of 1951, which

was a smaller decline than in previous years. Mr. Mulley asked him to consider providing equipment and finance to the small non-fletton producers on whom so much depended if we were to get the production needed, and Mr. Eccles said he was considering that, but the May figures were the best ever. (June 24.)

Mr. Eccles also informed Mr. Mulley that brick production last May was 576,600,000. The output of clay roofing tiles was 62,800 squares, and of concrete roofing tiles 96,400 squares. (June 24.)

Timber Stocks

Mr. Gibson challenged the figures given last week of softwood imports and stocks, asking the Minister of Housing and Local Government how, in view of the continuing reduction of stocks this year, he proposed to maintain the present output of houses. He asserted in reply to the Minister's statement that decline in stocks during the first part of the year was the normal seasonal trend and that the stock level was high compared with previous years, that whereas imports had dropped by 56,000 standards, stocks had dropped by 65,000 standards. Mr. Macmillan said that this was a false point: each period of the year should be compared with the corresponding period of another year. In March, 1950, the stock was 278,000 standards; in March, 1951, it was 202,000; and in March, 1952, it was 669,000 standards. Timber was bought at certain periods of the year, and imported at certain periods, and used largely at certain other periods. The important thing was to keep up the flow. (June 24.)

Steel Pattern

Lieut. Col. Lipton asked for an assurance that steel supplies were adequate to meet the certificates issued to local authorities to purchase steel for housing purposes. Mr. Macmillan said that he knew there had been difficulties in obtaining building steel, but the Ministry of Supply was making every effort to adjust production to see that the right kind of steel was available. Lieut. Col. Lipton put his question in another form: Is there any relation between the certificates which the Minister seems to be issuing in lavish quantities and the actual steel which local authorities can get hold of? Mr. Macmillan suggested that Lieut. Col. Lipton did not appreciate that the term "steel" did not define a uniform commodity. What the Departments had been trying to do was to increase total building by getting a larger amount of reinforcement rods and pre-stressed wire, and that required an alteration in the pattern in the steel industry which they were pressing forward and which, he thought, was making remarkably good progress. (June 24.)

Development Claims

Mr. Sparks asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what was the total

amount of claims approved for compensation for loss of development value arising from the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947; and when he proposed that such claims should be paid. Mr. Butler said that the total development value of the claims on the £300 million reported to the Central Land Board up to May 31, was just over £240 million. About 15 per cent of the claims had then still to be reported, and there was no reason to modify the estimate already given that the final total development value would be of the order of £345-£350 million. He hoped that the Government would be able to state their intentions about the payment of claims before long. (June 24.)

Next Session

Mr. Grimond asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government to state the Government's policy in relation to town and country planning, and in particular, to the development charges. He was invited by Mr. Macmillan to "wait and see," and construed the phrase as a promise of action. Mr. Macmillan said that he hoped action would be taken, but that involved legislation, and there was no hope of legislation this session. (June 24.)

Cement Prices

Mr. Mulley asked the Minister of Works what were the reductions in the price of cement and plaster board which had followed reductions in the cost of paper since March 11. Mr. Eccles said that in addition to the reduction in the price of cement by 3s a ton on June 3 over most of the United Kingdom, he was informed that another reduction would be made as soon as the very considerable stocks of paper bought at high prices had been exhausted. He was also informed that there had been no recent change in the price of plaster board, and that an increase in net costs had more than offset the reduction in the price of paper. (June 24.)

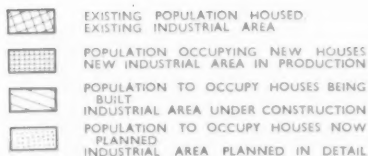
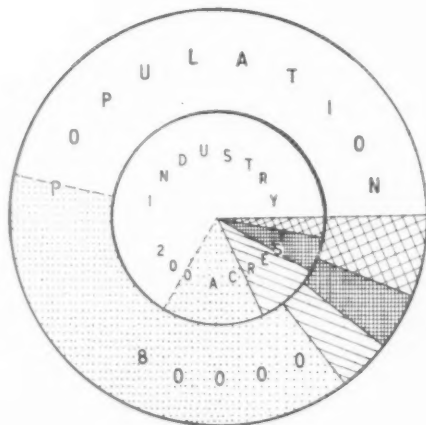
Contractors' Plant

On the control of the rates of hire of building and civil engineering plant, Mr. Eccles stated that he had consulted the principal organization of users and hirers of contractors' plant. The present maximum rates laid down in the Order would have had to be raised to cover increased costs of repairs, maintenance, overhauls and depreciation. The trade association concerned had given him an assurance that it would recommend its members not to charge rates in excess of amended figures incorporating only certain actual increased costs and to maintain these rates during 1952 unless there were further increases in costs. On the basis of this assurance he had decided to remove the control as from August 1 and would shortly make an Order giving effect to this decision. (June 24.)



Northwest elevation of the Tower and entrance forecourt, the Lawn, which has received a Housing Medal Award.
Architect: Frederick Gibberd.

Harlow



THE New Town of Harlow adjoins the village of that name some 23 miles northeast of London on the main Cambridge road. Although not the first Development Corporation to be set up, Harlow's Master Plan was the first to receive official approval. This plan which was originally designed for 60,000 people has now been redesigned to house 80,000. It does not occupy the whole of the designated area of 6,320 acres, but is planned in compact neighbourhood clusters at a density of 50 persons per acre, with the surrounding agricultural land traversing the purely arbitrary designated area boundary and projecting into the town pattern to culminate in the two main wedges which separate the four quarters of the new town.

The first of these neighbourhood clusters—the Mark Hall North, South and Netteswell neighbourhood has been planned in detail and is partly completed and mostly under construction. A plan of the area with the

names of the architects who have designed or are designing houses in it are shown on page 9. Some of the completed houses are illustrated on pages 10 to 17, including a semi-detached pair adapted to form a temporary Health Centre; also illustrated is a Tenant's Common Room. Work under construction in Mark Hall South is illustrated on page 18.

The Mark Hall and Netteswell neighbourhood centre—The Stow—(pages 19 to 21) is phased in two parts, the first of which is virtually completed the second about to be commenced. The first new primary school (page 20) is under construction in Mark Hall North and pupils are already doing lessons there.

The building of factories, in step with the housing programme, is taking place on the Eastern Industrial Estate on the border of the Mark Hall and Netteswell neighbourhood. The programme is described on pages 22 and 23. One of the standard factories has been adapted to form a temporary cinema to house 700, which it is hoped will be opened in the autumn.

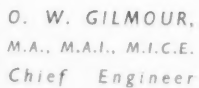
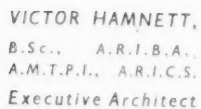
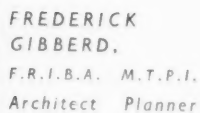
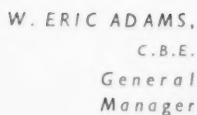
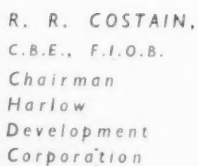
The second neighbourhood cluster, forming the northwest quarter of the town and including the town Hospital site has been planned and its development proposals have been submitted for Ministry approval.

Potter Street, one of the existing communities, situated in the southeast of the designated area, is to be increased to form a neighbourhood by the addition of 1,000 dwellings, the construction beginning in September. This development is additional to the planned programme and is to be completed in 21 months.

The planning of the third neighbourhood cluster, Tye Green, is well under way; a development plan will be produced by Mid-Summer.

The Town Centre plan (page 24) has been taken to an advanced stage maintaining, as far as possible, considerable flexibility. The first stage, the Market Square, is now being designated in detail and will come under construction in 1953. This will be concurrent with the planning of Hare Street, Little Parndon neighbourhood which will use the Market Square as a Centre.





MARK HALL NORTH,
SOUTH & NETTESWELL
NEIGHBOURHOODS

Diagram showing neighbourhood structure





Work planned, built and under construction. Numbers refer to architects' areas.

THE ARCHITECTS:

1. Harlow Design Group
2. Fry, Drew & Partners
3. Frederick Gibberd
- 4.-6. Harlow Design Group
- 8.-9. Harlow Design Group
11. Richard Sheppard & Partners
12. (North) H. T. Cadbury Brown
12. (South) Harlow Design Group
13. Harlow Design Group
- Stow Neighbourhood Centre :
Harlow Design Group

14. Harlow Design Group
15. York, Rosenberg & Mardall
- 16.-17. Norman & Dawbarn
- 18.-20. Harlow Design Group
21. Richard Sheppard & Partners
22. H. T. Cadbury Brown
24. Harlow Design Group
25. Gerald Lacoste
- Industrial Area : Harlow Design Group

The work of the Harlow Design Groups has been designed and carried out by the staff of the Development Corporation under Frederick Gibberd. The following members of the staff, among others, have been engaged in this work—F. Booth, J. S. Rank, G. T. Goalen (Industry), C. Featherstone, and A. J. McCowan.

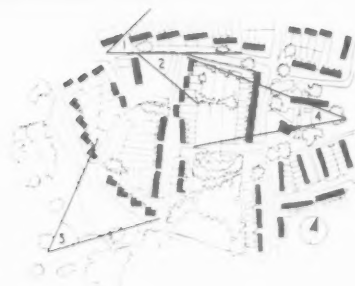
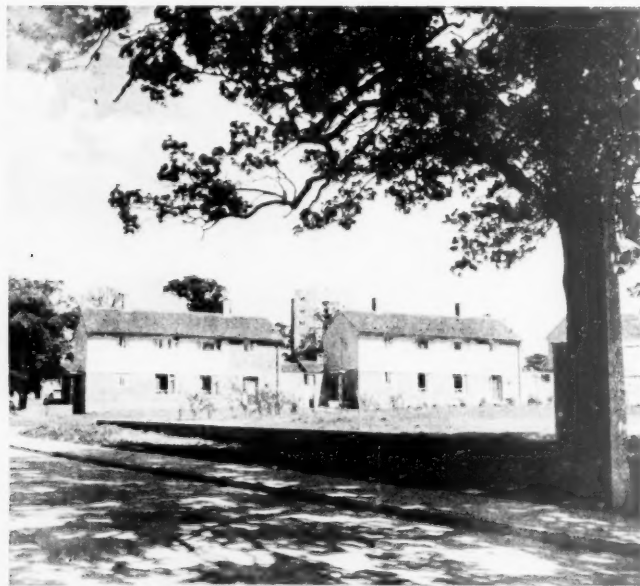
Harlow





1. Stackfield. Three-bedroom terrace housing. Architect: Frederick Gibberd. General Contractor: George Wimpey & Co. The gable ends are rendered. Fronts are weather-boarded above first floor with fair faced Surrey Stock brickwork below. The porch wall with small window is finished in golden coloured tiles and the front door is painted black.

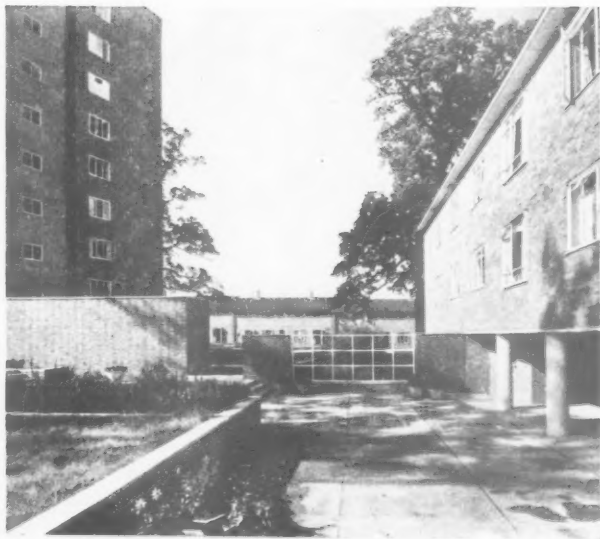
Housing



2. Mark Hall Moors. Architect: Frederick Gibberd. General Contractor: George Wimpey & Co. Three-bedroom housing.



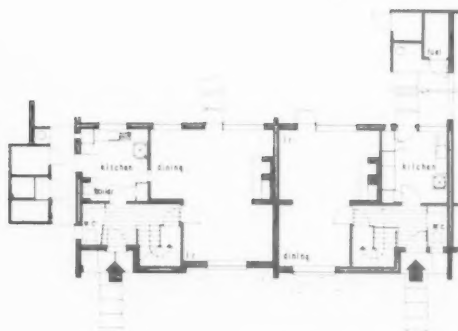
3. Mark Hall Moors. "H" type three- and four-bedroom housing. Architect: Frederick Gibberd. General Contractor: George Wimpey & Co. Again brickwork is Surrey Stocks with rendered gable ends. Roof tiles are Boxhill Pantiles. House plans are shown on the right.



4. The Lawn. Architect: Frederick Gibberd. General Contractor: Gilbert Ash Ltd. On the right can be seen a corner of the Tower block shown on page 6. The plan consists of four flats on each floor—two bed-sitting rooms and two one-bedroom flats—grouped round a lift and staircases. The three-storey flats on the right have a pierced ground floor so that the pavings may extend under them and link up with the terrace and garden extending along the East side of the Tower. In the distance are terraced houses.



5. *Tony's Dell*. Architects: Fry, Drew and Partners. General Contractors: George Wimpey & Co. The houses on the right with the walk-through are four-bedroom types, those on the left are three-bedroom. This terrace leads up to the four-storey centrally heated flats. The monopitch roofs are covered in aluminium or felt. Upper walls are rendered and ground floors are built in Ibstock bricks.



TERRACE HOUSE PLANS
FRY, DREW & PARTNERS



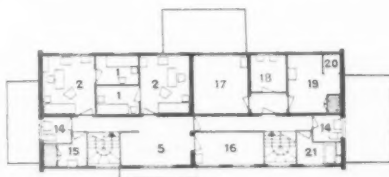
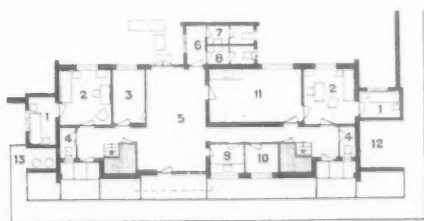
Housing

7. *Hayarth House Health Centre, the Chantry*. Architects: Fry, Drew & Partners. General Contractors: George Wimpey & Co. Site plan on page 14. A pair of semi-detached houses have been modified for the time being to provide consulting rooms for two, three or four doctors, a dentist and rooms for the county clinics. Because the scheme is temporary it was decided that the Corporation should retain the ownership, letting the rooms to doctors, dentist and to the County. The County Health Authorities think that within five years the building is likely to be too small for their clinic work. They hope by then that at least one wing of a larger Health Centre will be built. Since reconversion of the houses has to be faced in five years, the two front doors have been retained for the use of the Centre's staff, while a new central entrance for patients has been made.



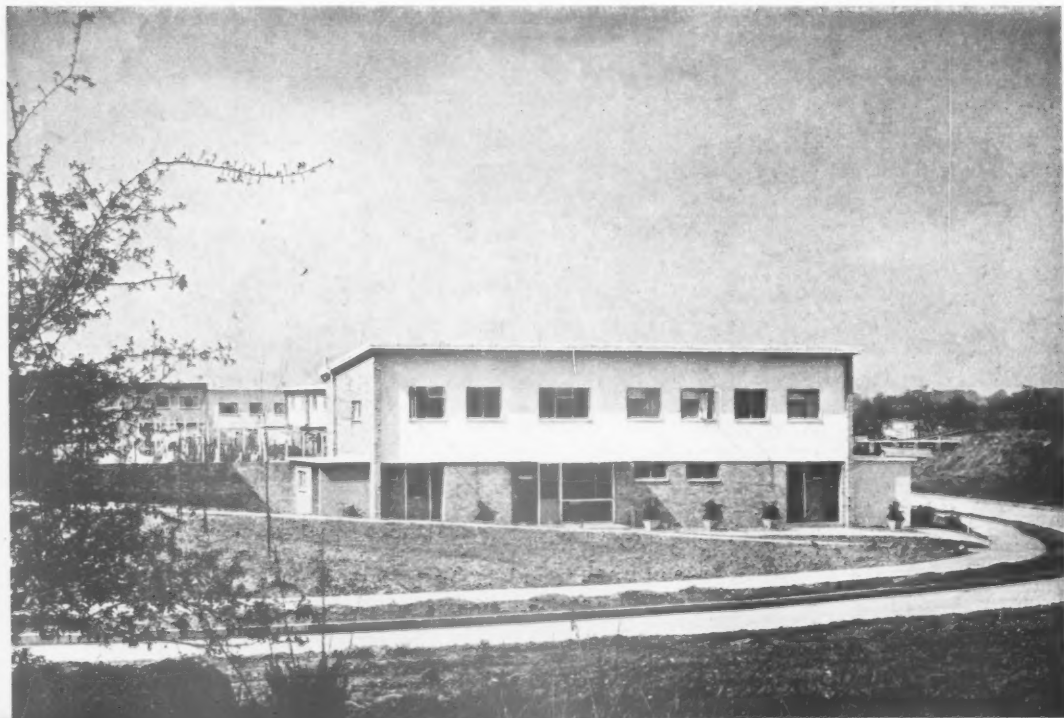
6. Terrace housing in Tany's Dell. Architects: Fry, Drew & Partners.

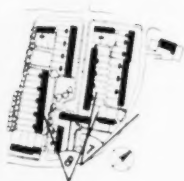
General Contractors: George Wimpey & Co.



1. Examination room 2. Consulting room 3. Office 4. W.C. 5. Waiting-room 6. Lobby
7. Women's toilet 8. Men's toilet 9. Kitchenette 10. Stores 11. Weighing and neonatal
12. Pram shed 13. Dustbins 14. W.C. and lavatory 15. Clinical side-room 16. Minor ailments
and consulting 17. Main dental surgery 18. Dental mechanics' room 19. Subsidiary dental surgery
with X-ray 20. Darkroom 21. Cleansing-room.

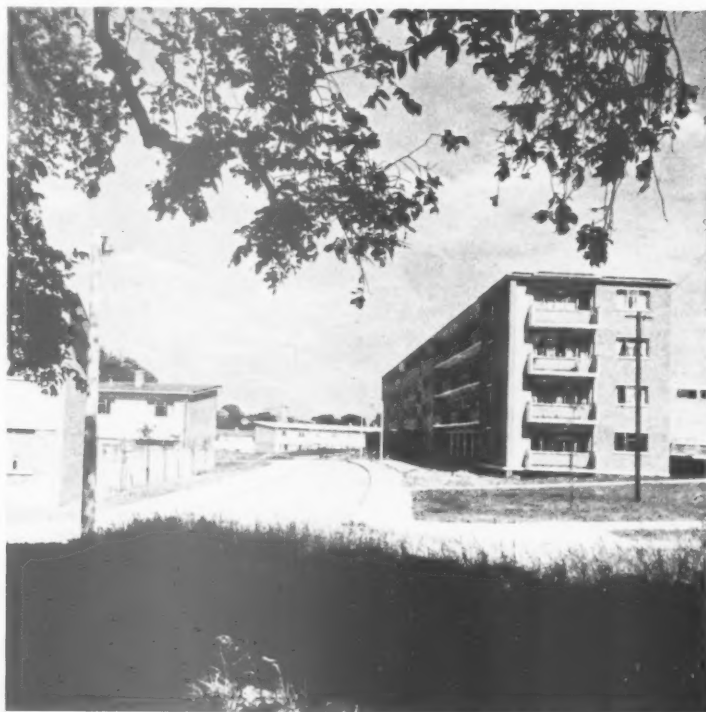
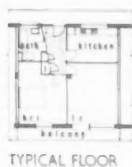
HEALTH
CENTRE



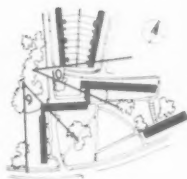


9. Tany's Dell Flats, Mark Hall North. Architects: Fry, Drew & Partners. The flats are centrally heated, facing bricks are Uxbridge Flints and red Multi-colours. General Contractor: Kirk & Kirk.





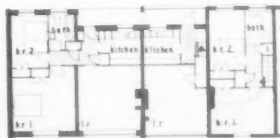
10. Another view of the Tany's Dell flats showing the way through under the four-storey block. The flats over the way through are served by access balconies, see plan top left. The standard flat plan is shown below.



8. The maisonette block in the Chantry. Architects: Fry, Drew & Partners. General Contractor: Kirk & Kirk. The view is taken from the Church looking down towards Mark Hall North. The ground floor plan shown below occurs at either side of the way through, whilst the maisonettes, of which there are eight, occupy the top two storeys. The structure of the block is based on nine-inch transverse brick walls which carry the R.C. slabs. The upper storeys are framed by precast concrete units externally with a rendered infilling.



TYPICAL GROUND FLOOR PLAN



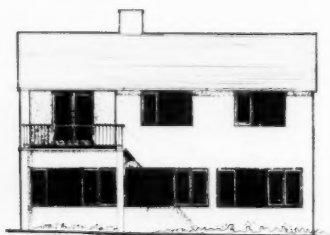
GROUND FLOOR 1st FLOOR 2nd FLOOR

Flats & Maisonettes



Housing

11. The Glebelands. Architects: Harlow Design Group. Three-storey flats on the right have buff Uxbridge Flint facing bricks, and built up felt roof covering. General Contractor: George Wimpey & Co. Houses on the left have plans similar to those below. Facing bricks are Surrey Stocks. General Contractor: Crooke Bros. In the far distance are three-bedroom monopitch houses with rendered fronts and Surrey Stock sides.



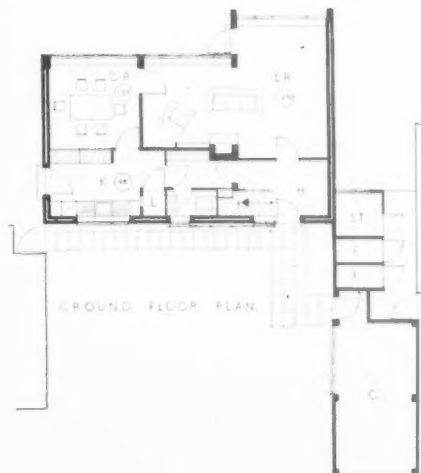
GARDEN ELEVATION



ROAD ELEVATION



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



12. The Glebelands. Architects : Harlow Design Group. The reverse side of the three-storey flats can be seen on the left. The building in front is a Tenant's Common Room. General Contractor : Crooke Bros. The lamp standard is in pre-stressed concrete and was designed by the Harlow Design Group.

Below, design for proposed upper-income-group house.



NORTH ELEVATION

SOUTH ELEVATION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



13. Mark Hall South. Terrace housing and four-storey flats by Richard Sheppard & Partners. General Contractors: Kirk & Kirk. Facing bricks are Leicester Straw Ruffs. Interlocking pantiles are used for roofs, except the curved terrace at the bottom of the hill which is slate covered.



14. Mark Hall South, Felmongers. Terrace housing by the Harlow Design Group with part of a block of corner flats on the right, comprising four two-bedroom flats and two one-bedroom flats. The tower block of flats can be seen through the trees.



Housing

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

The Stow

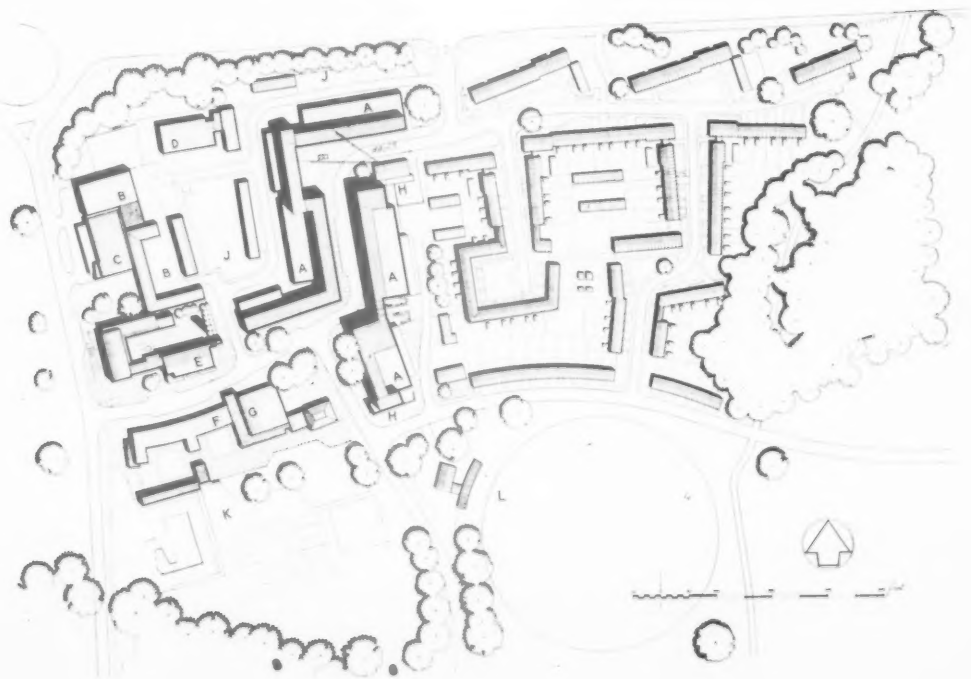
MARK HALL
& NETTESWELL
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

15. The Stow shopping centre with maisonnettes over shops. Colonnade columns are faced with pale blue tiles. Facing bricks are red and buff lbstocks. Architects: Frederick Gibberd and Harlow Design Group. General Contractor: George Wimpey & Co. The view is taken from outside the pub.



KEY:

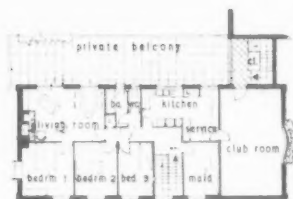
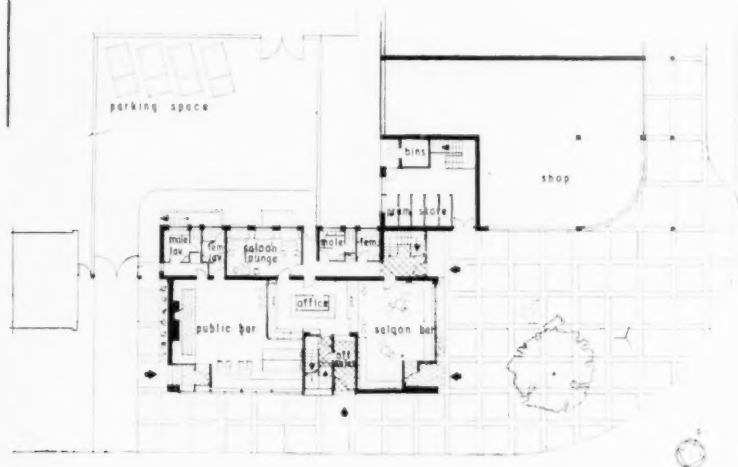
A—Shopping. B—Service Industry. C—Service Garage. D—Telephone Exchange. E—Methodist Church. F—Health Centre. G—Community Group. H—Public Houses. J—Car Parking. K—Central Recreation. L—Cricket Field with Sports Pavilion.





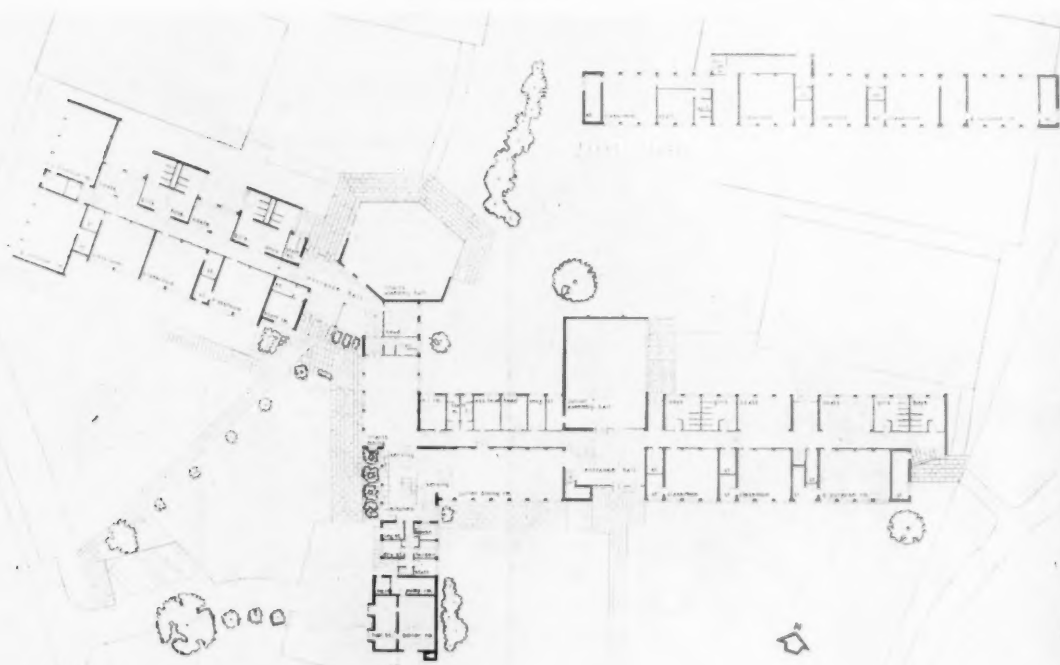
PUBLIC HOUSE

This Public House, to be named the "Essex Skipper," is under construction in the Stow. Architects: Frederick Gibberd and the Harlow Design Group.

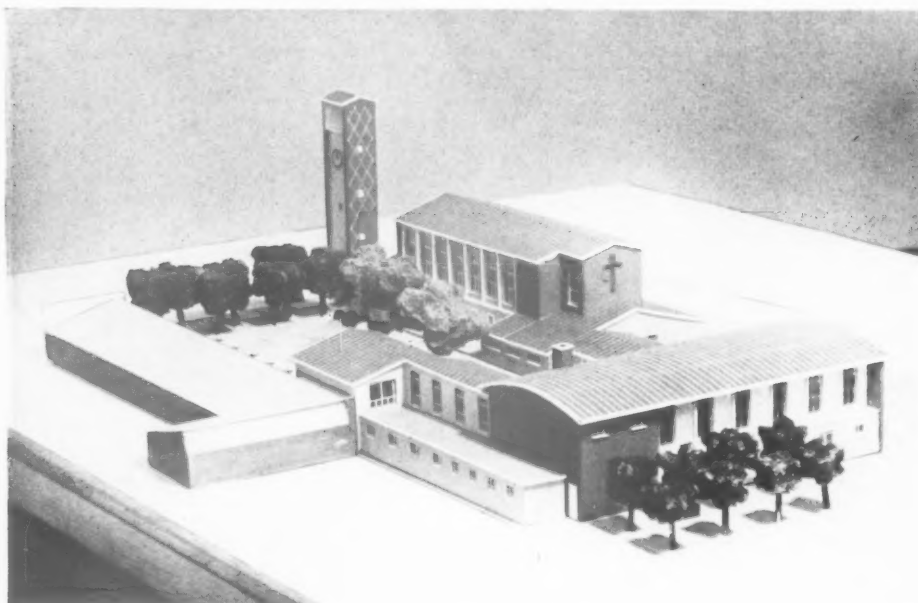


PRIMARY SCHOOL

Below is the plan of a primary school now in course of construction at Tany's Dell, Mark Hall North. Architects: Richard Sheppard and Partners.

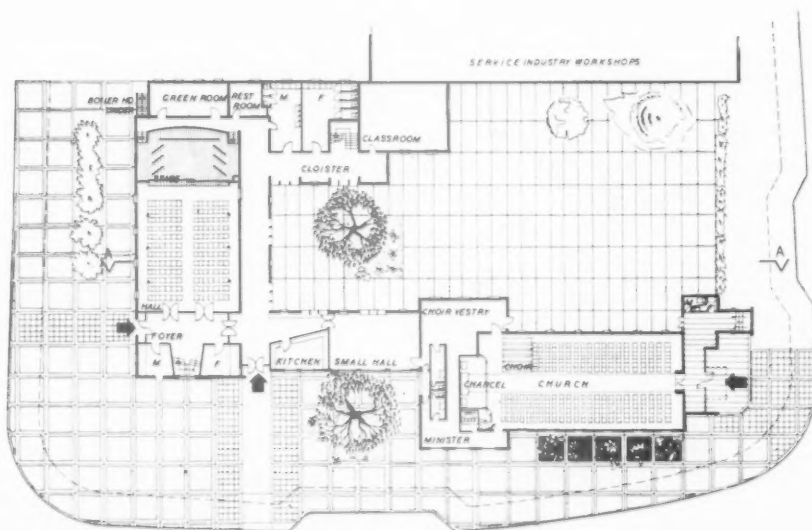


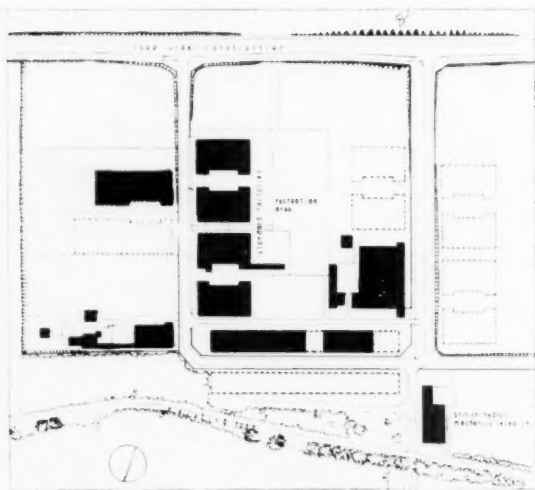
mark hall primary school
ARCHITECTS: RICHARD SHEPPARD AND PARTNERS



METHODIST CHURCH GROUP

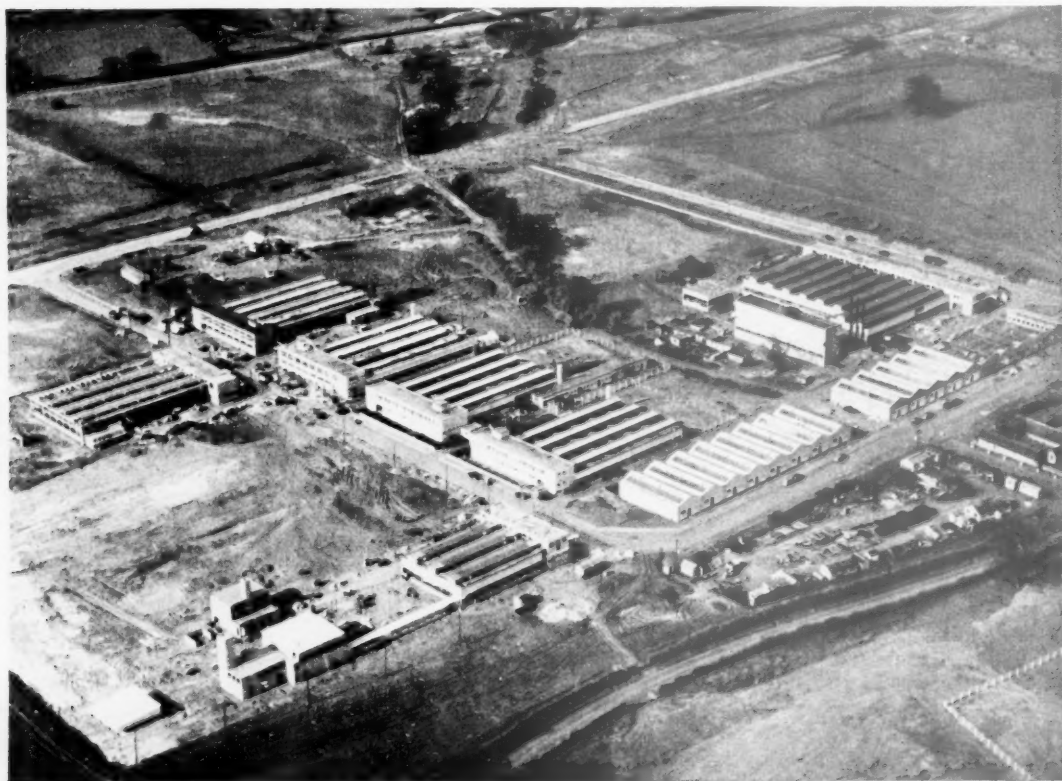
THIS Methodist Church Group is being built near the shops and opposite the site for the future Health Centre in the Stow. It is hoped to build the large halls, kitchen and classrooms and possibly the small hall this October. London Stock bricks may be used generally with some dark brown to emphasise certain parts of the building. The roofs will be of copper if this is available. Architects: Paul Mauger & Partners.

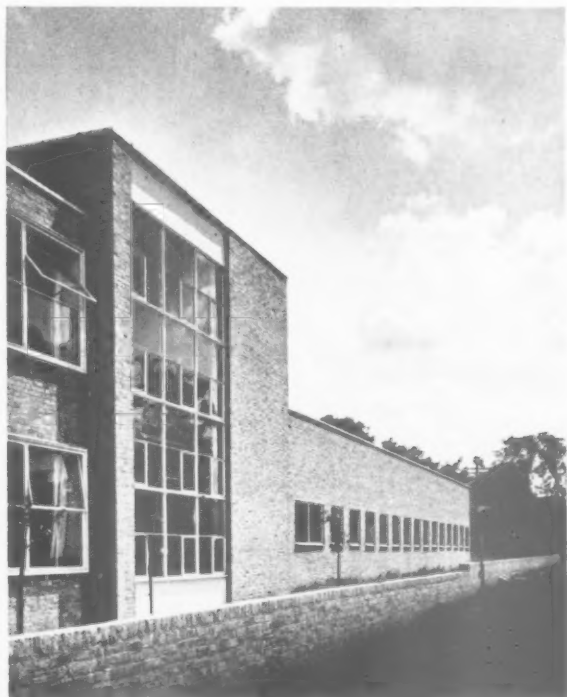




Block plan and aerial view of part of the Eastern industrial estate which is now in course of development. The spine road to link up the Cambridge Road with the Town Centre can be seen under construction in the background of the picture. The sectional factories are those running eastwards immediately south of the standard factories.

THE Master Plan of the Harlow New Town provides for two industrial areas situated in the north-east and north-west corners of the town. The Eastern industrial estate offering some 112 acres net for factories is now in the course of development. Forty acres of this area is also reserved for goods yards and a further area north of the railway is reserved for further factory sites if required. In establishing industrial areas in the New Town the Corporation is proceeding with three types of development. (1) By the erection of a sectional factory. This is a unit of about 2,000 sq ft. capable of being multiplied up to say 10,000 sq ft in

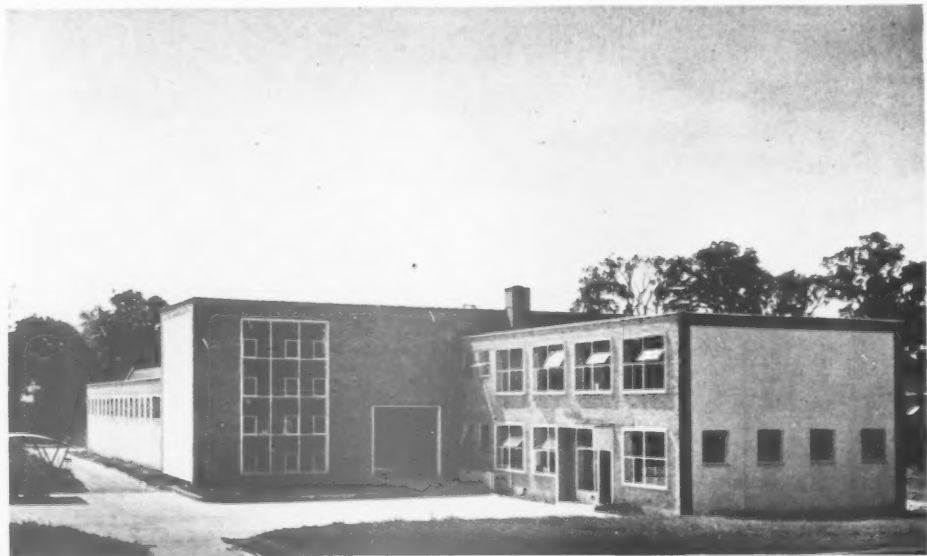




The British Hydromechanics Research Association laboratory.
Architects: Harlow Design Group.

I n d u s t r i a l D e v e l o p m e n t

Another view of the laboratory showing main entrance and entrance to workshop.



similar units to meet the needs of the "smaller man." (2) By the erection of a standard factory of 20,000 sq ft, capable of being multiplied into units of up to as much as 100,000 sq ft, and (3) By the leasing of sites at a ground rent for the industrialist to develop himself. In certain cases a factory may combine the standard accommodation and "special purpose" space built to the industrialist's own specification and erected at his cost.

In the Eastern industrial estate 13 sectional factories, two standard factories and two adapted standard factories occupying a total floor area of 109,900 sq ft, are completed, occupied and in production.

In the course of construction are five sectional factories, two standard factories, three adapted standard factories and one special factory, occupying a total floor space of 307,500 sq ft. In addition four sectional factories, one intermediate factory, three standard factories, four special factories, and an extension to an existing standard factory are projected.



TOWN
CENTRE
PLANNING
PROPOSALS

Harlow

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Civic Precinct | 14. Expansion Area | C. Restaurant |
| 2. Office Precinct | 15. Formal Gardens | D. College of Further Education |
| 3. Market Square | 16. Cycle Parks | E. Ministries' Offices |
| 4. Shopping | 17a. Cycle Underpass (b) | F. Professional Offices |
| 5. H.P.O. | 17b. Pedestrian Underpass | G. Police Courts |
| 6. Banks | 18. Telephone Exchange | H. Police Station |
| 7. Public Houses | 19. Fire Station | I. County Offices |
| 8. Commercial Hotel | 20. Bus Garage | J. Municipal Offices |
| 9. Lock-up Garages and Stores | 21. Warehouses and Workshops | K. Council Chamber and Small Hall |
| 10. Car Parks | 22. Service Garage and Filling Station | L. Council Suite |
| 11. Bus Station | A. Church | M. Art Gallery, Museum, etc. |
| 12. Entertainments Square | B. Library | N. Civic Hall and Theatre |
| 13. Filling Stations | | |

Top Soil and Planning

TRAVELLING round the country recently to look at the progress of housing since the war, and especially to look at current construction, I formed the impression that in the rush to complete houses, to save labour and to keep down costs, many architects and builders are taking insufficient interest in site planning, in planting and in leaving sites in a condition which permits gardening by the tenants themselves to be reasonably possible without excessive cost both in money and personal labour.

The Ministry of Housing has stressed in many ways, including special reference in the Housing Manual, the need for good layouts and good site planning. There are most certainly signs of considerable improvement for the better when post-war schemes are compared with those of pre-war construction. The better layouts, however, need better understanding of planting and of the handling of trees and shrubs as they are being used in greater quantity. The planning is in many schemes rather poor in arrangement and very unoriginal in the selection of types of trees and shrubs. Much of the thought expended seems to be too short termed in its lack of realization of what the planting will look like after ten years or more. Opportunities are frequently lost by the failure to use trees which will in due course grow into really large specimens as an alternative to the small trees such as flowering cherries, almonds and may, of which there are far too many of the same few varieties.

I hope this avoidance of trees which will ultimately grow really large does not arise from fears caused by B.R.S. statements of the dangers to foundations and drains which may arise from the proximity of trees. I would rather risk an occasional underpinning job than have no trees where they are suitable as site embellishments.

A recent issue of a Sunday paper commented on the lack of originality in the selection of varieties of trees and suggested that those responsible for building site and roadside planning would gain much by empanelling some of the great amateur and professional gardeners to advise those responsible for this planning; I am very sceptical of the benefits which would accrue unless these gardeners are trained landscape architects who have not only an adequate horticultural knowledge but also a capacity to design the applications of horticulture. I believe that the small cost of employing a trained landscape architect as an adviser would be amply repaid in improved appearance. The results I have seen when such professional advice is taken indicates that much better use of the natural conditions of the site, quite often, incidentally, involving less earth moving, did provide, in addition, a more interesting selection of trees and shrubs than appear to be the choice

of the average architect even with the advice of the local nurseryman.

Some of the districts which have the good fortune to have knowledgeable park superintendents have certainly made a good showing when the park departments' advice has been used to help with the development of new housing scheme planting, but unfortunately there are also park superintendents whose ideas are very stereotyped in both the selection and the handling of planting.

As to the actual user of the sites, many of us have at some time taken over sites on completion of building operations and spent weary week-ends clearing up the mess which the builders contracted to take care of but omitted so to do before completing their engagement. There seems to be a growing disinterest by builders, and those who supervise them, to clear the rubbish during and at the end of the job and to preserve the parts of the site which are to be tenants' gardens: these parts seem to be treated, in so many cases, as dumps for builder's waste and as moving or working spaces for mechanical plant such as dumpers and concrete mixers. On some sites, however, it is very noticeable that by a little care in planning the building operations relatively no damage to the site is done except very close to the building and untidiness is really cleared up at completion. This may be a small matter as part of the whole building contract, but it is one which seems worth a small amount of attention.

As to top soil from site clearing, it seems that on the majority of sites little or no care is taken to put it where it will be useful in tidying the site or to the future occupiers of the buildings. Again a little care in handling top soil, mainly involving some forethought but little extra cost, can be of the greatest assistance to getting especially quickly the site of a scheme as a whole in a decent-looking condition, apart from the fact that it simplifies greatly the early work of the tenants.

The question of whether front gardens should be private to the individual house or treated communally is obviously very controversial. The communal treatment certainly provides a more pleasant appearance to a scheme as a whole, but from discussions with tenants it seems to be unwelcomed to a large proportion. The front garden question raises in my mind the matter of fences versus hedges. Hedges are certainly more pleasant in appearance but take a long time to grow into efficient divisions and protection against the ingress of animals and children. They really involve in their initial stages the provision of some form of fencing, if only posts and wire. In some gardens they occupy quite a large area of the land and make the adjoining area of little

value for growing other plants. When they are used, however, a greater variety of types would be welcome as one becomes exceedingly tired of green privet and quick. I find from enquiries that tenants on the whole prefer fences for various reasons, such as increased privacy, better gardening near the boundaries and reduced upkeep. Near to dwellings there is obviously a preference for close-boarded fencing, even if hedges or other types of fencing are used for the greater part of the length.

Fences are usually criticized on the score of maintenance costs, as posts fail and fences fall. This seems to arise mainly from the rotting of wooden parts when sunk in the ground or due to the failure to insert posts sufficiently deeply to be below the part of the ground kept loose by gardening. Both these failures can be overcome easily at very little cost. Wooden posts should be given a proper preservative treatment—I do not mean brush apply a poor-grade material but as described in B.S.1722, or by the use of concrete posts so that no wood is inserted in the ground. Incidentally, there are some very poor concrete posts to be seen as one travels about. Again I recommend the use of B.S.1722 as very good guidance as to how a concrete fence post should be made if it is to be satisfactory.

One of the worst site features I have noticed are the gates provided for many houses as they are so poorly constructed and seem very unlikely to stand up to the heavy treatment to which they are subjected for any great length of time. There is a long-published B.S. No. 583 for gates which deals with quality and construction unrelated to specific designs, but on examination it needs revision to bring it into line with the requirements of B.S.1722 for fencing in order to provide for suitable gate posts if no fencing adjoins to which the gates are hung and to take account of changed methods of construction of gates.

DUTCH UNCLE

"Making Concrete"

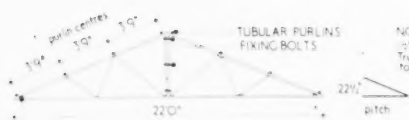
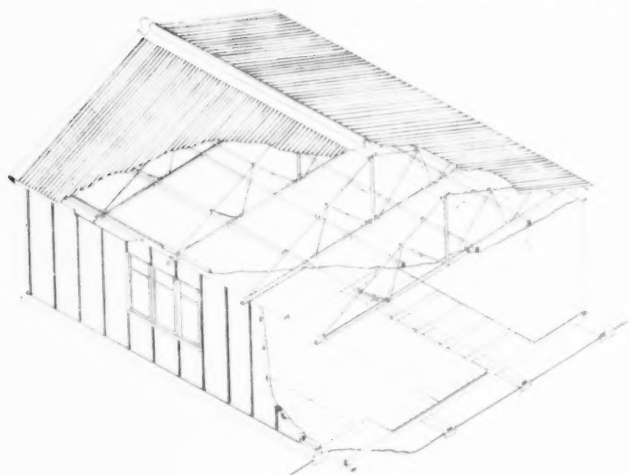
"Making Concrete," No. 26 in the Ministry of Works series of Advisory Leaflets, published by H.M. Stationery Office on Monday, June 23, 1952, tells the man who does the work how to make consistently good concrete.

Copies of Leaflet No. 26 and of previous issues in the series are obtainable (singly or in bulk) from H.M. Stationery Office (postal orders to P.O. Box No. 569 London, S.E.1) or through booksellers, at the following rates: 25 copies for 3s 6d; 50 for 6s 6s; 100 for 12s 6d; 1,000 for £5.

Single copies 3d each. Postage on quantities less than 25: up to 4 copies 1½d; up to 14 copies 2d; over 14 copies 3d.

MAYLIN CONSTRUCTION

Patents
pending



CUSSET
CORRUGATED ROOF SHEETING
P.Q. TUBULAR PURLINS
METAL LUG WELDED TO END OF
TRUSS FOR FIXING FASCIA BOARD

EX 4" x 1" TIMBER FASCIA BOARD

4 1/2" R.R. RAINWATER GUTTER

CEILING PANELS MADE
FROM 1/2" INSULATION
BOARD WITH 2" x 1" TIMBER FRAME

1/2" SHEET ASBESTOS SOFFIT
1 1/2" x 1 1/2" WALL PANEL FRAMING

1/2" SHEET ASBESTOS

1/2" GAUGE ROLLED
METAL WALL CAPPING

1/2" INSULATION BOARD

1/2" ASBESTOS SHEETING

1/2" INSULATED BOARD
1 1/2" x 1 1/2" TIMBER PANEL

TIMBER STILES OF
WALL PANEL RUN
DOWN TO BOTTOM
OF BASE CHANNEL

1/2" GAUGE ROLLED
METAL WEATHER STRIP

1/2" GAUGE ROLLED
METAL BASE CHANNEL

RAC-BOLT SET INTO
CONCRETE BASE

BITUMINOUS FELT Laid UNDER
WALL PLATES & ENDS OF
JOISTS

1" T.G. BOARDING

4" x 2" FLOOR JOISTS

CONCRETE SURROUND

INTERMEDIATE CONC. BLOCKS
4" x 2" WALL PLATES

1/2" CLASS WOOL BLANKET

1/2" INSULATION BOARD
1 1/2" x 1 1/2" TIMBER FRAMING

1/2" ASBESTOS SHEETING

1/2" GAUGE ROLLED
METAL SECTIONS

1/2" INSULATION BOARD

1/2" CLASS WOOL BLANKET

1/2" ASBESTOS SHEETING

1/2" GAUGE ROLLED
METAL SECTIONS

TIMBER CORNER
PIECES

1/2" ASBESTOS SHEETING

1 1/2" x 1 1/2" TIMBER PANEL FRAMING

Maylin Construction is a system of prefabricated interlocking panels having a horizontal module of 2'0", which can be used to provide different types of buildings such as Houses, Offices, Communal Halls, Dormitories, etc. It is designed specifically to provide very speedy erection where this is a necessity.

General constructional details are shown on this page. Manufacturers: Maycrete Ltd.



BRITISH BUILDING EQUIPMENT FOR THE WORLD

ALTHOUGH it has been recently suggested that "a light may be seen at the end of the tunnel" with reference to the national struggle for economic self-sufficiency, the need for a sustained export effort continues. The building materials and associated equipment industry can look with some pride on its achievement since the last Supplement of British Building Equipment was published. During the period new ideas and techniques have emerged and the merchant adventurer spirit has been adopted by contractors who have sent representatives to the overseas markets to study at first hand the requirements and possible scope for business. In particular, one senior member of a leading United Kingdom firm has made a tour of the West Coast of America and Canada and has reported on the market prospects in that area for prefabricated houses and house-building supplies and materials.

That his trip was worth while is confirmed by the detail, not only of construction and materials, but in the special requirements of the area in his report. His conclusion was that a potential market exists for a cheap, prefabricated house despite various difficulties of import duties, taxes and heavy road haulage rates.

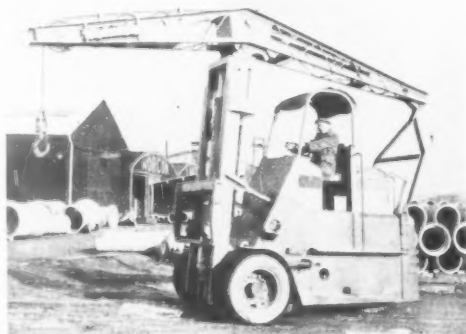
His experience is that of many other firms who have explored the possibility of doing business overseas. The example of Canada has been given with its opportunities to meet the growing expansion in that country. The setting up of centres in the larger Canadian cities by groups of United Kingdom manufacturers has been recommended. In this suggestion was contained the idea that British goods could be displayed, stored, sold and serviced in this group method. Technical difficulties connected with Canadian Standards can be overcome by the means of personal visits and investigation and an arrangement made recently by the Canadian Standards Institution with the British Standards Institution for the testing of certain types of equipment in this country will do much to overcome the problem raised.

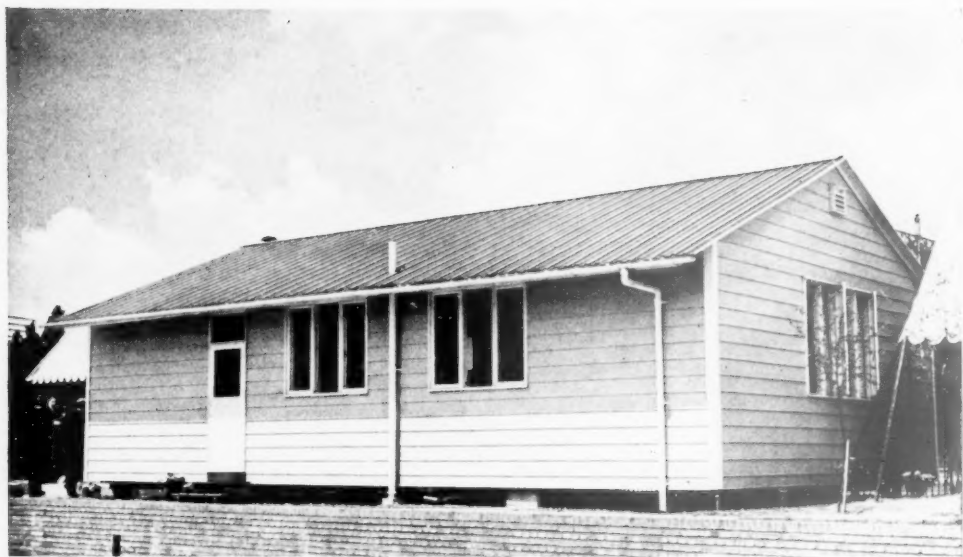
The way of the exporter is not a rosy one, and recent import restrictions in Australia and other countries have added to his problems, but accommodation, both for production and for living, is a growing world requirement. While many countries plan expansion of cement output and of other materials and our own mills continue at full stretch, progress made in housing and living standards generally will ultimately create demands for fittings and equipment which many of our manufacturers can adequately provide. In the pages of this, the 5th Annual Supplement of British Building Equipment, we have pointed to some of the newer trends in design which can either assist in production or in fitting. In the past year, the mechanization of handling of materials for building has progressed and again, new labour-saving methods were demonstrated at the recent Mechanical Handling Exhibition at Olympia, London.

Latest Board of Trade figures indicate that exports of prefabricated buildings for the first five months of this year were valued at nearly £1,000,000 more than in the same period of 1951. Other items which show an increase in value of exports are woodworking machinery, concretors, door frames and window casements. These are encouraging achievements, but that further scope is available to exporters is made clear from the experience of a British architect during a recent visit to Sweden, who was assured that a display of modern British electrical lighting fittings of good design would bring rewarding business to the promoters. There are many more markets for exploration, and in spite of changing circumstances, manufacturers of building materials and components can make a substantial contribution to national recovery by seeking those markets.

AS on previous occasions, a selection has been made of Building Equipment for Export, which represents a vastly wider field, and the names of manufacturers are withheld in most cases for this reason. Readers who are interested in any sections or particular pieces are invited to write to the A. & B. N. The names of manufacturers, together with full information will then be forwarded.

Fork lift truck with cantilever jib



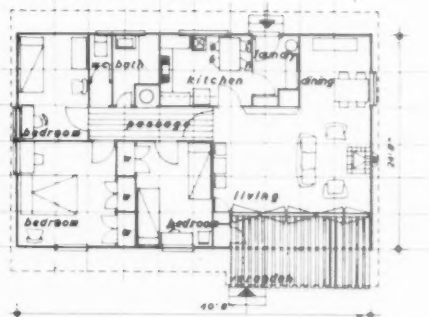


Elevation, Kitchen Side

THE COMMONWEALTH HOUSE

architects: C. A. V. SMITH, ARIA

in collaboration with: J. P. MOCKRIDGE,
ARIA



PLAN

THIS new house for export can be erected by the average handyman and can be produced in large numbers in a short period. The claim is made that 20,000 houses per year can be quickly reached and the main frame, wall and roof cladding can be packed into a shipping space of six and a quarter tons.

A wide series of plans were submitted for the criticism of experts and laymen in Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia and East Africa, who were also questioned on the suitability of types of materials and fittings. The standard frame and cladding construction and such other components as needed to deviate from standard production were then adapted to meet the requirements of the plan and elevations which, by a consensus of opinion, most suited the general requirements in the widest number of countries and districts. The standard three-bedroom plan now available for production is illustrated on this page; two- and four-bedroom houses will also be available.

The floor to ceiling height of the rooms in a standard building is 9ft 0in, but houses having a ceiling height of from 8ft 0in to 11ft 0in can be supplied to meet special circumstances. The total floor area excluding the verandah is 905 square feet.

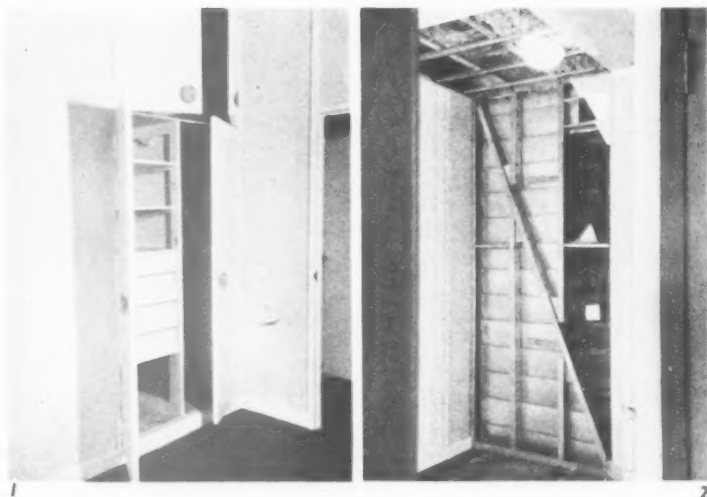
Construction

The frame and cladding are of aluminium construction. Trusses are placed at 2ft 8in centres while vertical studding is at 1ft 4in centres. Partitions are of Stramit board, paper covered. Windows are timber framed with those to kitchen and bathroom and lavatory fitted with additional frames carrying copper mesh fly-screens. The door to the laundry is also fitted with a flyscreen.

The shaded verandah has flooring, valance and approach steps constructed in teak, delivered cut to size. The glazed doors from the living-room open out in such a way that the living-room and verandah

1. One of the clothes cupboards divided into two sections; drawers and shelves on the left, hanging space on the right.

2. Exposed section of the house showing the diagonal aluminium wind bracing, U-section aluminium ceiling bearers and the fibreglass insulation placed between the vertical studding and along the ceiling bearers between trusses.



3

may be occupied as one room. Ventilation in the roof is supplied by timber framed louvres fixed in each of the gabled ends. Ventilation to the rooms are by means of louvred aluminium panels fitted to appropriate sheets of aluminium cladding. They are connected to a room wall face by means of ducts.

Flooring is of tongued and grooved boarding laid on light-weight lattice steel joists with a top fillet of timber. Steel girders which support the lattice joists are in turn supported on twelve hollow metal cones placed on the ground and filled with concrete. The metal cones are fitted with a special ant-trap.

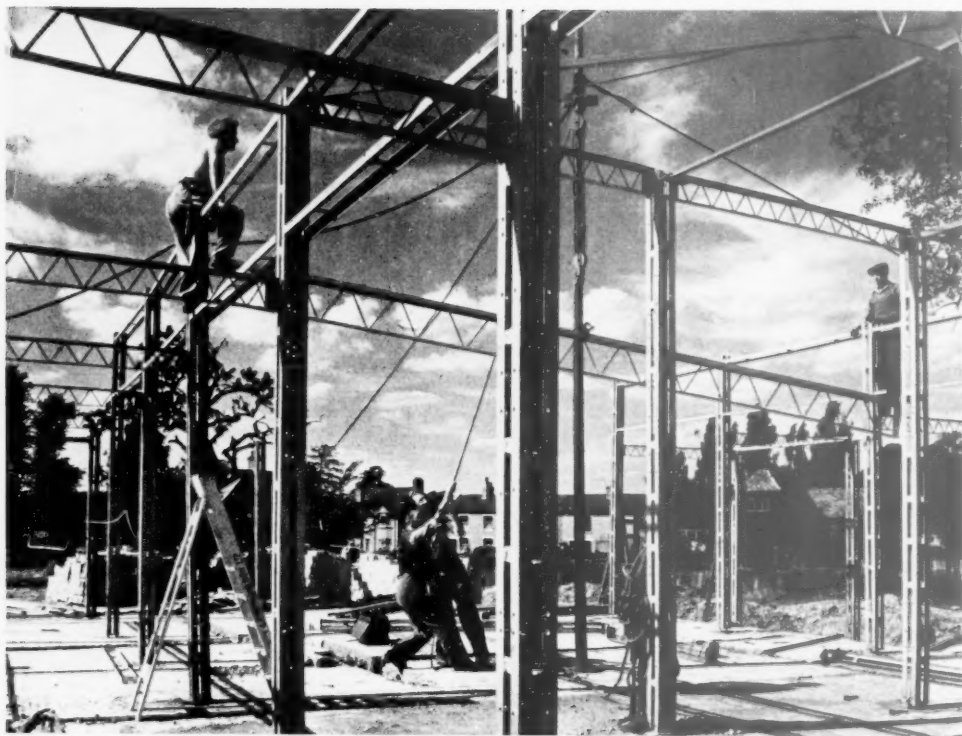
3. The underneath of the house showing the saucer-shaped caps of the ant-traps which are kept filled with water.

A shower of hot water may also be directed against an invasion of termites by turning a tap in the linen cupboard. (Patents pending)

4. A living-room furnished. The vitreous enamelled sheet-metal fireplace was designed by an American Architect, Karl Koch.



4

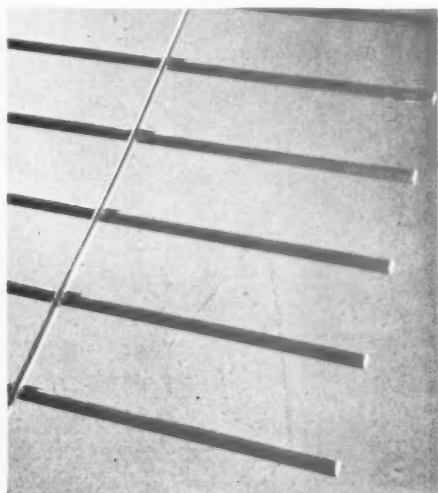
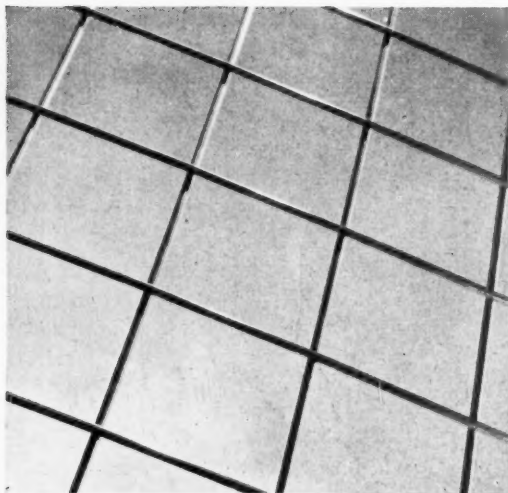


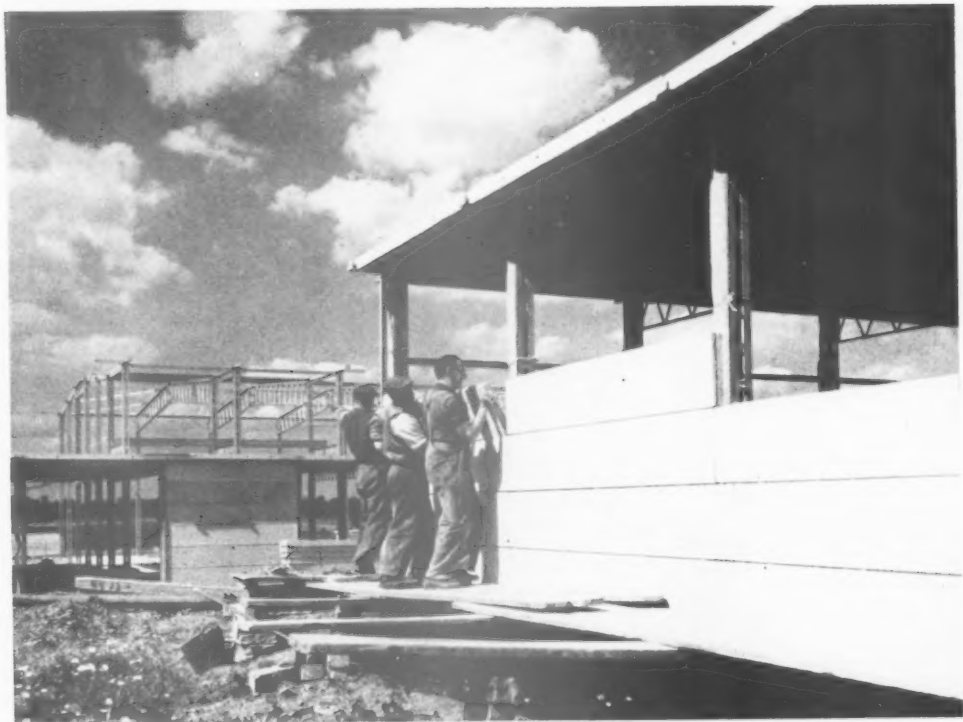
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*Precast
and Prefabricated Work*

2

3

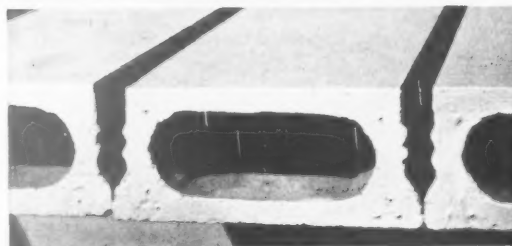




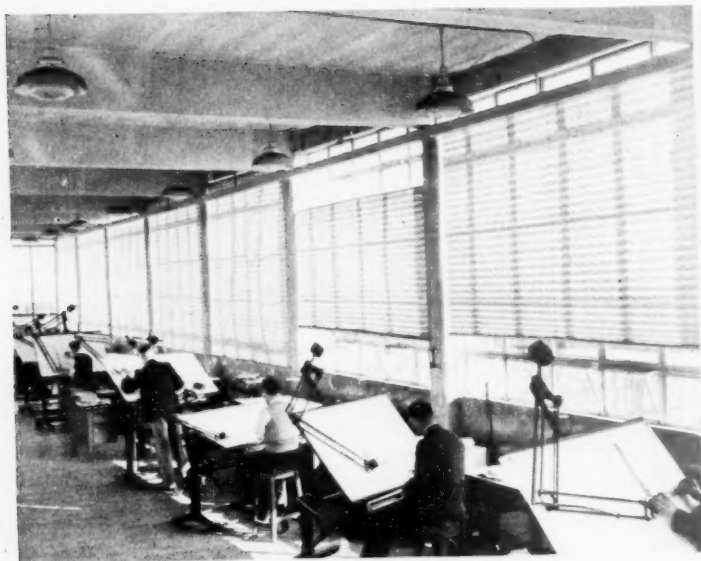
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Each year further progress is made in the use of precast units and prefabricated systems which are now beginning to be exported. 1. Erecting steel components of a prefabricated system of construction widely used for schools. 2. and 3. Examples of steel rod fabric used in reinforced concrete work. 4. Precast facing slabs being erected as a wall cladding to a prefabricated steel frame. 5. 3in channel reinforced rebated wood-wool roofing slab with high insulating value for warm and humid atmospheres. 6. Hollow precast floor units made in normal reinforced or prestressed concrete. They are grouted together to form a homogeneous slab.

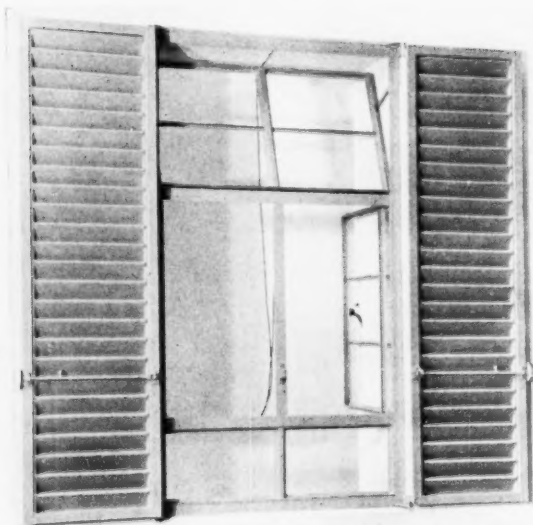
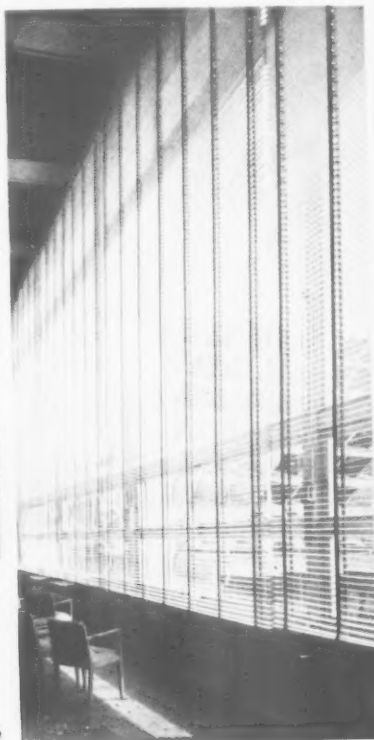
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6



Shutters and Blinds



1. Pleated blinds in fabric impervious to insect and tropical deterioration, which can be lowered from top or raised from the bottom.
2. Painted aluminium adjustable louvred blinds.

3. Steel windows with steel louvred shutters specially designed for tropical and sub-tropical climates.
4. Steel roller shutters incorporating a side door, suitable for industrial and commercial purposes.

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can give you a 40' 0" span with a 10" hollow unit

Supporting beams eliminated by prestressed concrete floors and roofs of long span.

Bison is a complete, box section precast floor unit, needing only joint-grout to form a homogeneous hollow slab. A floor of 30 years' success adapted to incorporate the latest prestressing technique.

The ease of manufacture, on standard mass produced principles, by means of the Pneumatic Core (World patented) have made Bison the predominant and cheapest floor construction in Britain.

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There are over 70 models available, finished in Neutral Grey or Olive Green baked enamel, with grey, terra cotta, green or black linoleum tops.

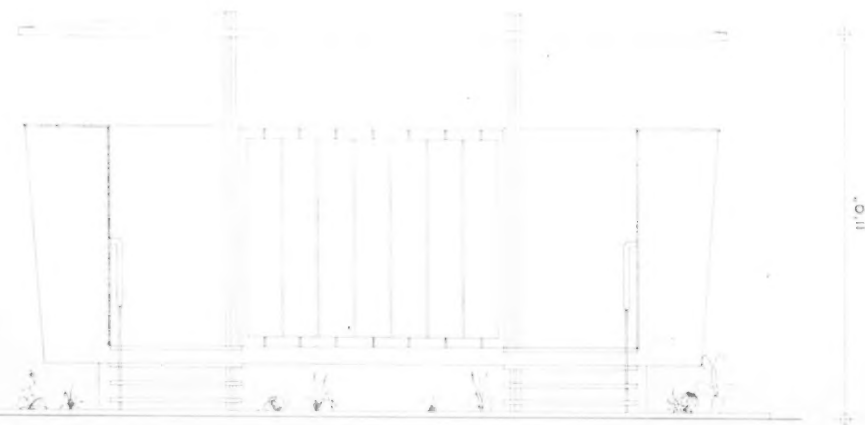
Write or call for particulars of full range of Equipment.

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TELEPHONE: CITY 4477 (10 lines).



FRONT ELEVATION 1" = 4' 0"

1 1/2" Ø STEEL COLUMNS

2" x 2" T

2 1/2" x 3/4" HARDWOOD EDGE

TENSION WIRE WITH TURNBUCKLE

TOP PART OF SECTION

1/4" PLYWOOD ON FRAMING

BLACK FLOCK PAPER

REVOLVING SIGN PANELS

PLYWOOD ON FRAMING

PART PLAN

POLISHED MAHOGANY HANDRAIL

3/4" Ø STAINLESS STEEL SUPPORTS
WITH 1 3/4" Ø FLANGES WELDED ON

POLISHED MAHOGANY TREADS

3' x 1 1/2" CHANNELS

1 1/2" BLOCKING PIECES

CARPET

3/4" BOARDING

2" x 3" JOISTS

TURNING MECHANISM

MIRROR

1/4" M.S. PLATE

PLANT BOX

CEILING DETAIL

SCALE FOR DETAILS

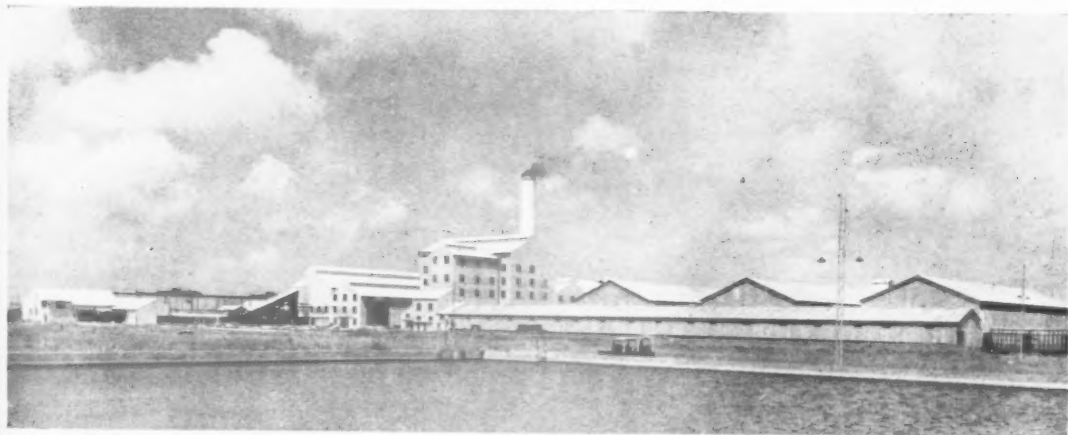
3/4" = 1' 0"

SECTION AT BASE OF STAND

SECTION THROUGH STEPS



STEEL MANUFACTURERS EXHIBITION STAND AT THE B.I.F.
DESIGNERS: R. GUTMANN, G. HOFFSTEAD
CONSULTANT: MISHA BLACK



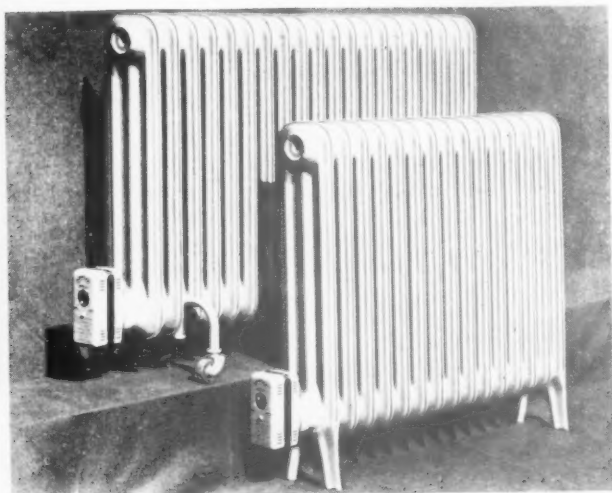
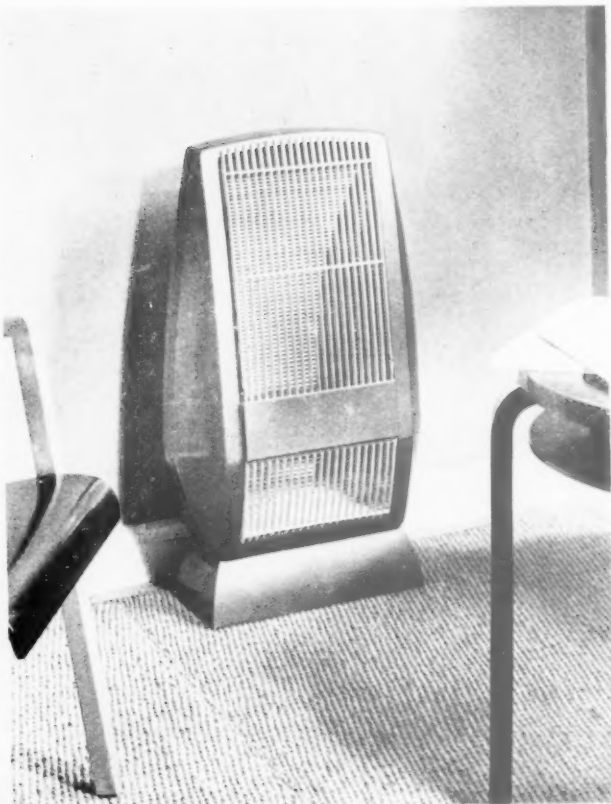
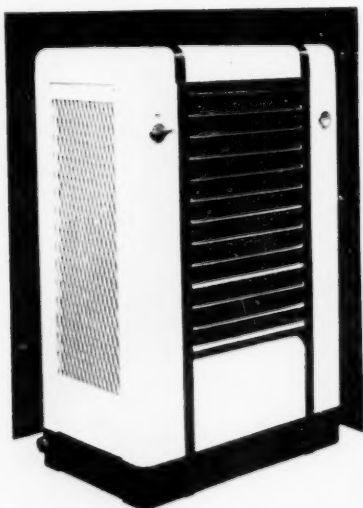
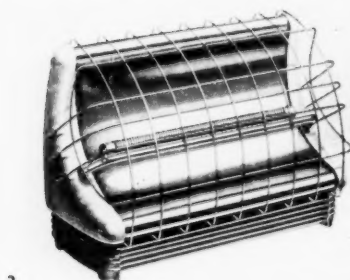
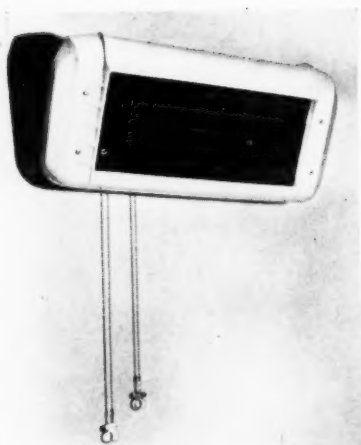
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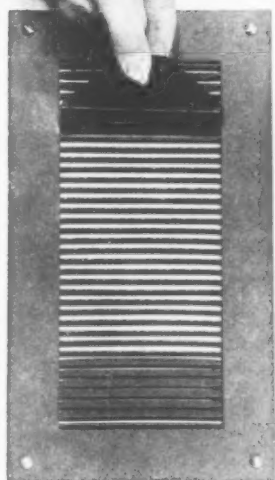
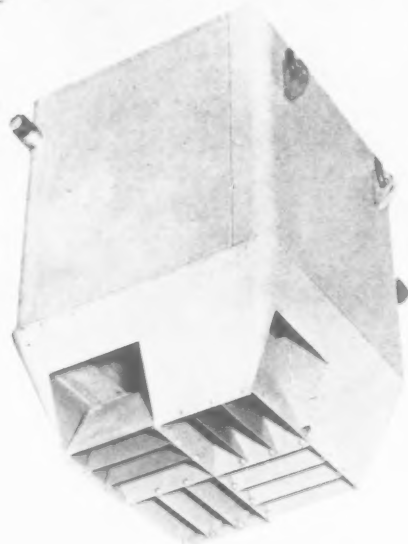


3

1. A large sugar refinery with cladding in asbestos cement corrugated sheeting.
2. Bolting corrugated "Perspex" sheet roof light to corrugated cladding.
3. Fixing corrugated asbestos cement sheeting by means of stud welding.

Cladding





1. A gas heating-panel for use with Town, bottled or natural gas. Finished in vitreous enamel. Various shades available.

2. A small gas fire.

3. A gas-fired standing space-heater finished in cream and black enamel.

4. Thermostatically controlled oil-filled electric radiators.

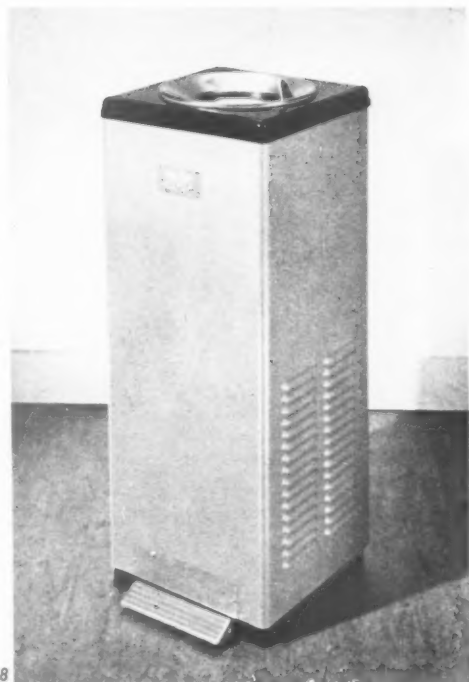
5. Another gas space-heater available in a number of colour finishes for use with Town or bottled gas.

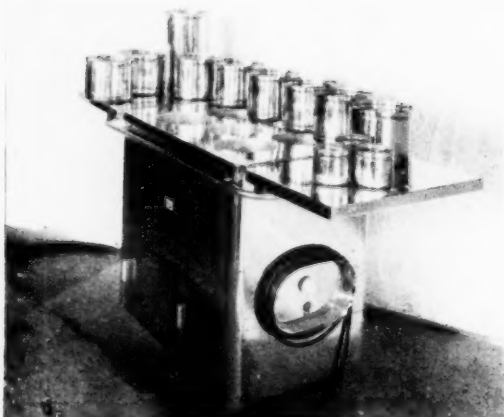
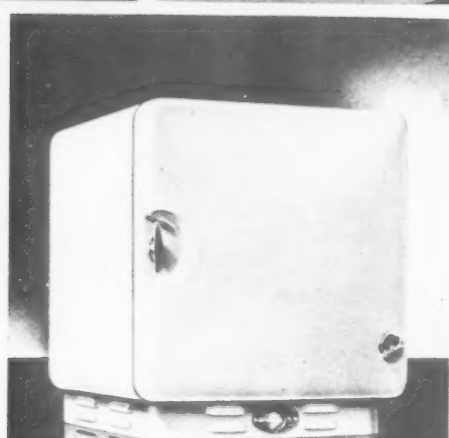
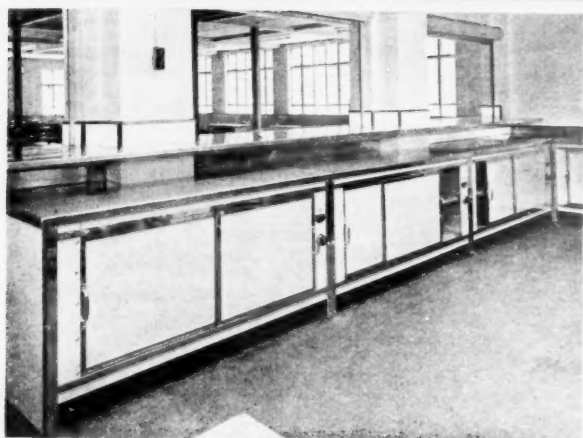
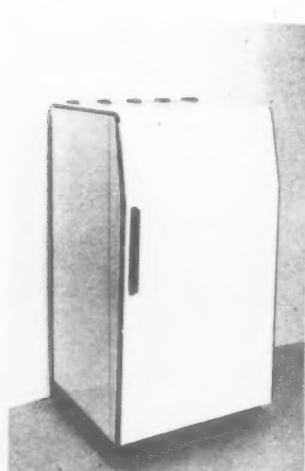
6. For use with hot-water heating systems, a unit heater which discharges warmed air downwards in four directions by means of a fan. Finished in heat-resisting enamel.

7. An air distribution grille with louvres adjusted by means of a specially designed key.

8. A drinking-water cooler with foot-operated valve. Capacity: 6 gallons per hour. Operated on Methyl Chloride or Freon.

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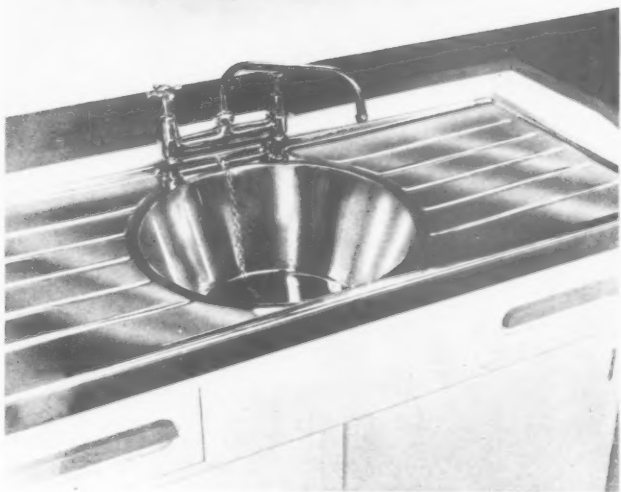
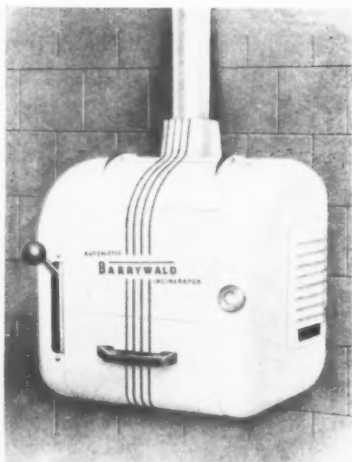
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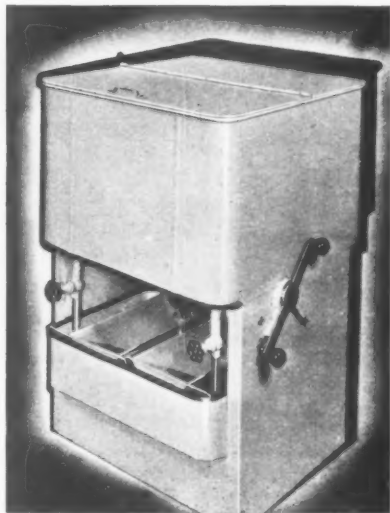
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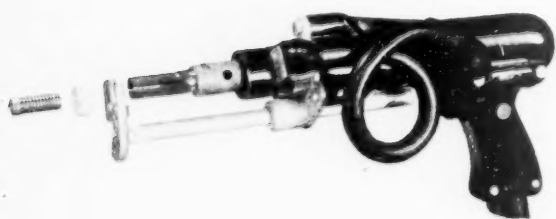
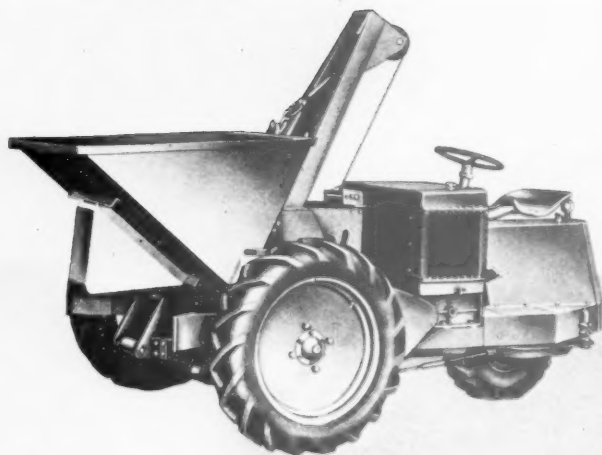
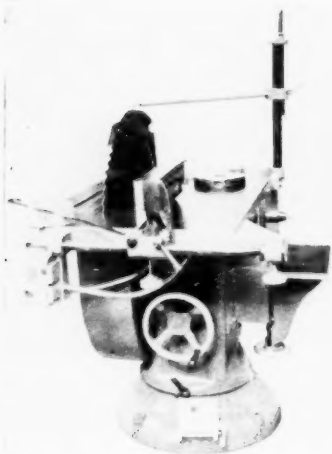
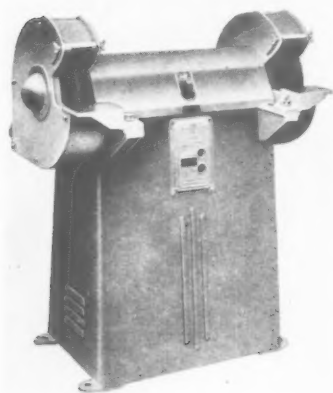
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refrigerator which can be installed as a wall fitting or mounted on a stand. 6. An electrically heated food trolley in stainless steel for hospitals.

7. A new model of a gas-fired incinerator. 8. A small hand basin supported by a fireclay lug which goes into the wall and is made as an integral part of the ware. 9. An

electrically fired automatic incinerator for cloakrooms.

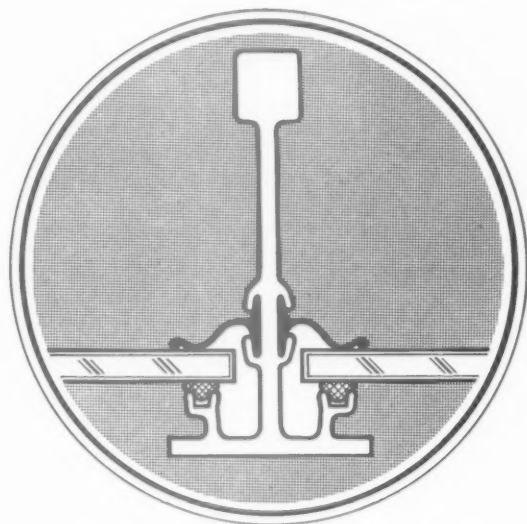
10. A new circular-bowl sink in stainless steel manufactured in one piece. 11. A new electric dish washing machine for smaller catering establishments. Water is heated by a built-in immersion heater, is circulated by pumping and filtered during washing.



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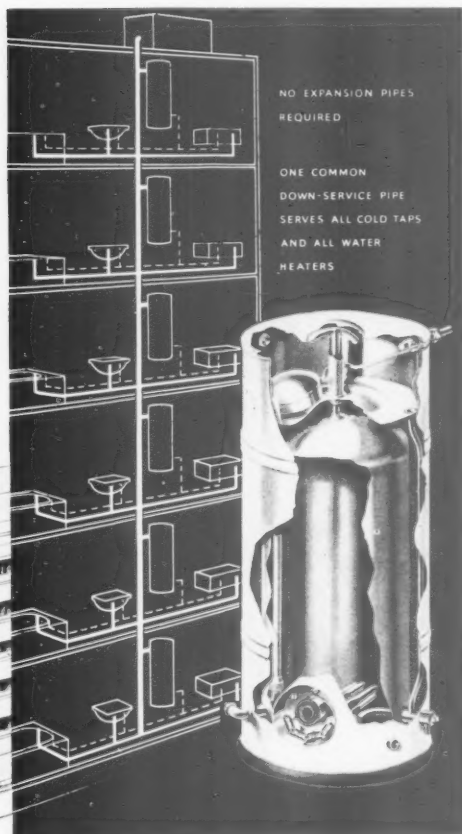
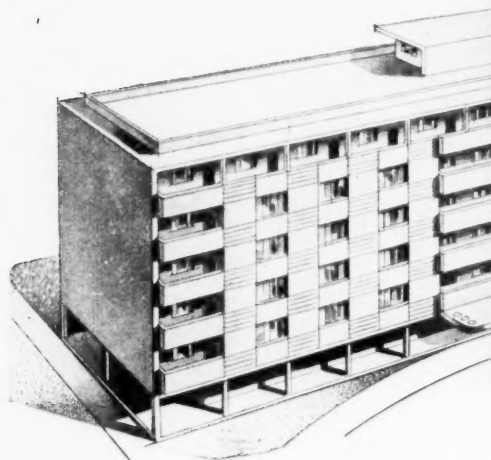


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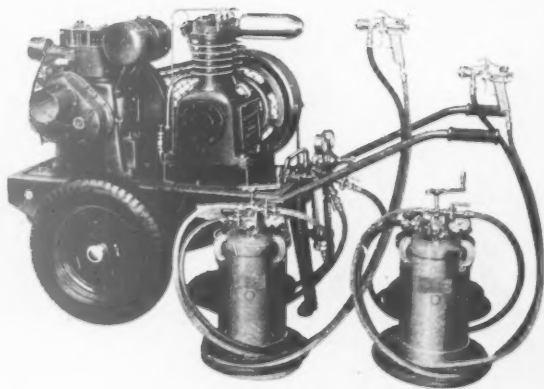
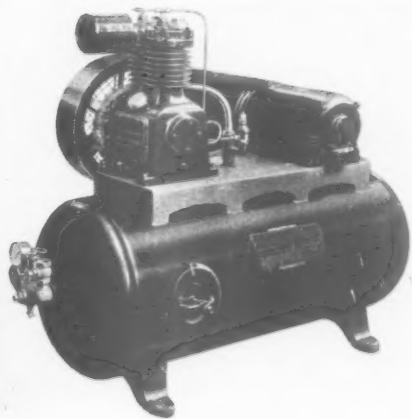
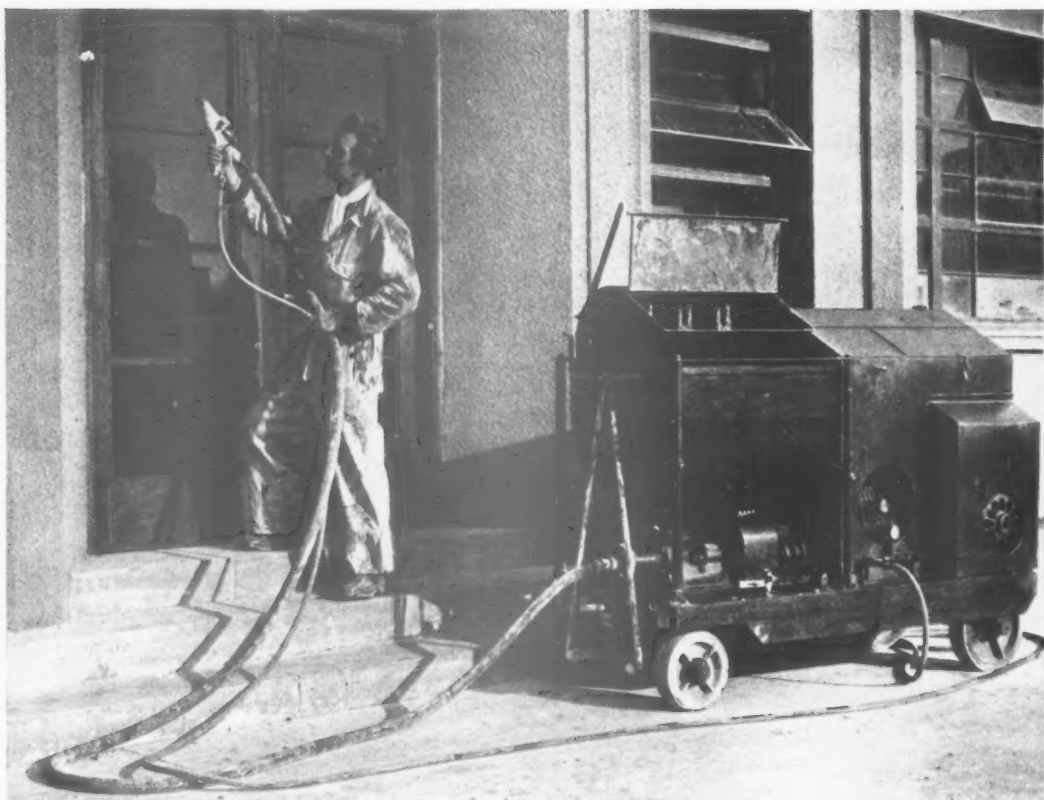
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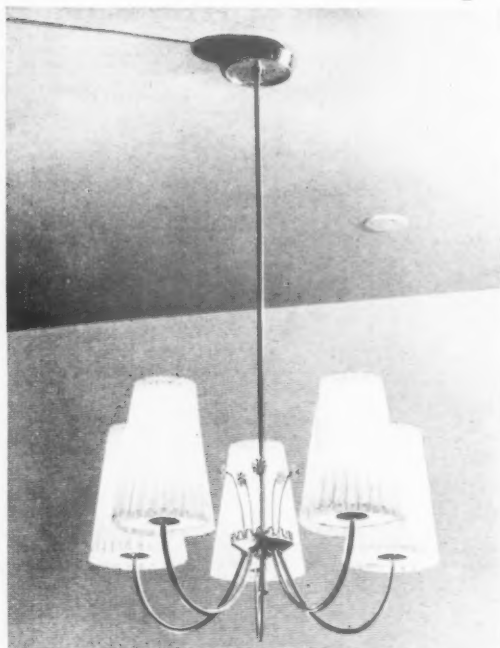
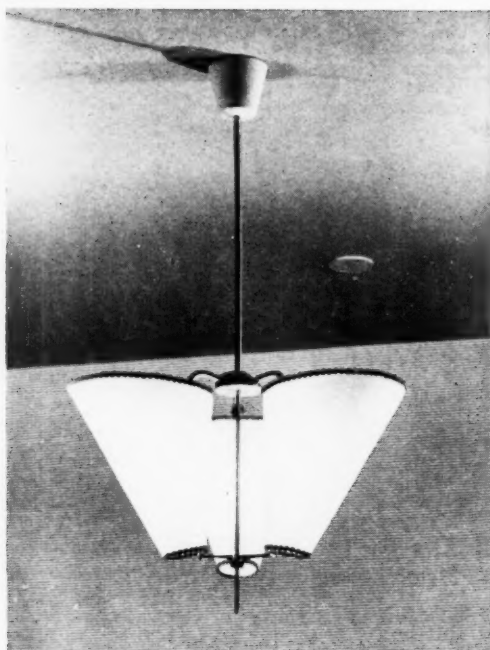
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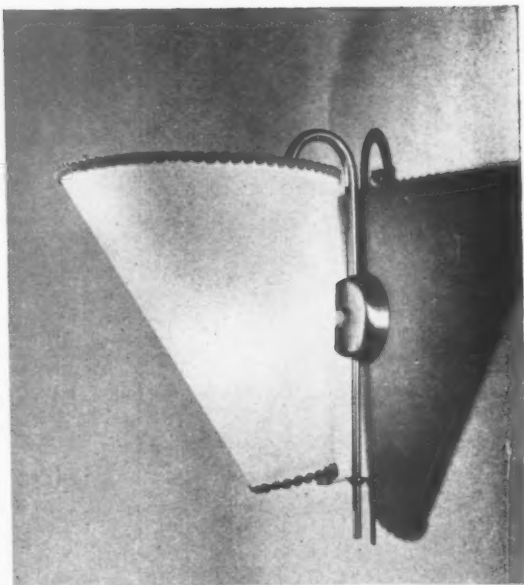
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5. Adjustable wall light in lacquered brass, buckram shade.

6. Paper shade can be reversed by means of slip device.

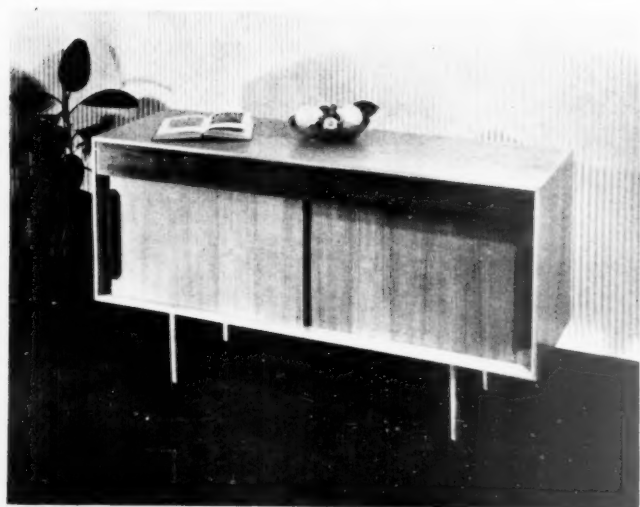
7. Table lamp in satin brass. Reeded plastic shade.

8. Table standard, lacquered brass base. Burma teak shaft. Paper shade.

Light Fittings



1



2

1. Table and chairs in ash and mahogany veneer by Leslie Corke.
2. Sideboard in agra, beech, cherry and Dutch elm by Robin Day.

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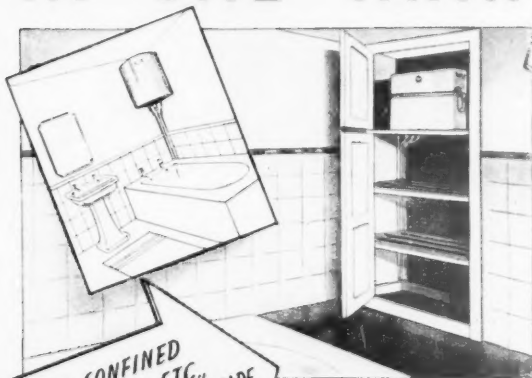
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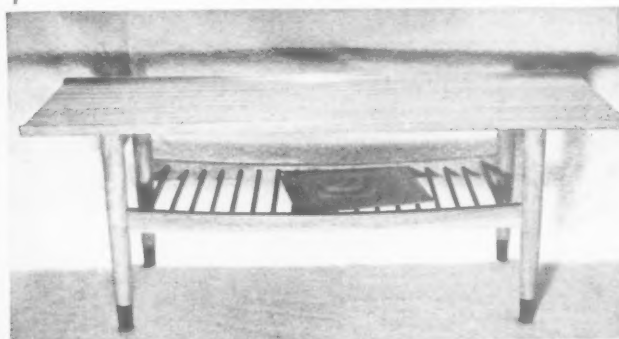
2. Sideboard in African mahogany and Bombay rosewood by Booth and Ledebor.

3. Occasional table in veneered plywood with hardwood frame by Ewart Myer.

4. Bedside table in veneered plywood by W. H. Russell.

5. Dining chair in Yugoslavian beech by A. J. Milne.

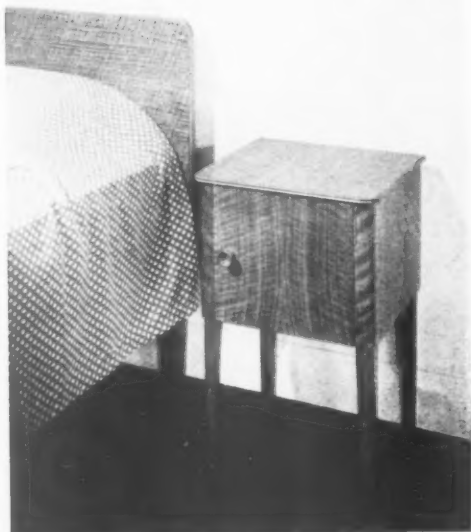
Furniture



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THE ARCHITECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO HOUSING IN 1952

A Paper delivered at the British Architects' Conference on June 27, 1952

By J. L. WOMERSLEY, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Borough Architect and Town Planning Officer, Northampton

Introduction: Early Post-War Years

It will generally be conceded that during the years 1945 to 1951 architects were able to make a bigger contribution to house building in this country, in relation to the size of the programme, than at any time since the Industrial Revolution. This was mainly due to the fact that the post-war Government steered the bulk of the work into the hands of local authorities in order that houses might be built to let, thus giving to those in greatest need the best opportunity to be housed. Whatever criticism may be levelled at the Government of the time, it was certainly fully conscious of the need to ensure that its vast housing programme was well planned, technically and aesthetically. Its Minister of Health, ably advised by his Chief Housing Architect, gave local authorities clearly to understand that qualified architects should be placed in charge of both house design and the layout of estates.

It can be said, then, that the early post-war years gave architects the opportunity for which they had been waiting. For so long as prices remained reasonably steady good standards of design, construction and layout could be achieved without undue difficulty.

The Early 1950s

During 1950 and 1951, however, far from stabilizing, prices actually rose more steeply. Good houses which had been built in earlier years for £1,100 and £1,200 rose to £1,400 and £1,500; and with a rearmament programme looming ahead, likely to cause a shortage of labour and materials in addition to increasing costs, the nature of the architect's problem changed completely—more completely than perhaps some of us wish to realize.

An architect designing a building for a private person will not usually desire to bring about his client's bankruptcy. Where funds are limited he will design a building of simple character with sound but not expensive materials. Faced with rising costs the client, on his side, will usually agree to forgo some of his original idealistic requirements in the interests of economy. Whilst in the simple case of the two individuals this policy seems merely one of common-sense economics, the present housing problem before the country to-day, which is fundamentally identical, is so camouflaged by central and local government subsidies and loans that we tend to become blind to the fact that we are living beyond our means.

An awakening to the true financial position has, however, begun, and unless architects are ready and anxious to point the way to a more economic house-building programme they may well find themselves thrown over, as a first public saving! They have shown that they can produce well-laid-out houses of good quality where reasonable funds are available. They have still to prove beyond doubt that they are the best equipped members of the building team to advise on the means to increase production and save costs.

The task before us at this date in mid-1952 may therefore be summed up as follows:—

- (1) to build houses at less cost;
- (2) to build more houses more quickly and with the minimum amount of labour and materials;
- (3) to plan housing schemes in the most comprehensive economic sense; embracing land use, roads, services and site preparation;
- (4) while doing these things, still to safeguard the quality of the house and the regained amenities in layout.

Present Living Conditions

Before analysing ways and means to achieve these objectives it is important to consider them against the background of our present living conditions.

One would think from the idealistic talk one sometimes hears—usually from people living in a comfortable house—that it is better to make those waiting for accommodation hold out for five or six years until they can be given the ideal home than to trim the ideal somewhat and by this and other means house them in two or three years. It seems necessary, therefore, to draw attention to the deplorable conditions in which a large proportion of our populace is living. As an example let us reflect on three conditions which obtain in one Midlands town of better-than-average amenities: out of a total of 31,000 dwellings, 15,000—almost half—have no baths; 9,000—nearly one-third—have no flushing system to their water closets; 3,500 new dwellings are required to deal with overcrowding alone—a ten-year programme at the present building rate.

It cannot be denied that, despite all our fine post-war estates and new towns, the great bulk of the appalling houses handed down to us from the 19th century is still with us. The slum clearance efforts of the present century have been held up by two long wars, while redevelopment of obsolescent and blighted areas since the last war has been negligible. There is, however, one vital factor connected with these

deplorable dwellings that ranks on the credit side of the balance, and that is the rent. Housing committees and managers know only too well the bitter irony of the situation where a family living in almost indescribable conditions does not wish to take advantage of newer and healthier accommodation because the rent, despite the subsidies, is so much greater.

Ruth Glass, in her "Observations in Lansbury," after referring to the delight of the inhabitants in their new environment, says, "But still the success of Lansbury is not assured, for there is one shadow which neither the planners nor the people of Poplar can dispel on their own. Will the families who need to live in Lansbury be able to afford to live there? . . . The majority are intensely worried by the high rent. . . . A few have already begun to dread the day on which they may have to move away again because they cannot make ends meet. . . . Thus," she says, "the comments most frequently heard—worry about the rent and delight with the new surroundings—provide a summary of the really significant features of Lansbury to date."

These are facts, and it is on the basis of these facts that we need to examine the desirable size for a house; because Lansbury is not, unfortunately, the only place where people worry about their rents.

The Accommodation Required

Before considering means of expanding production or reducing dwelling sizes we should find out, far more precisely than has been the custom in the past, just what sort of accommodation is required.

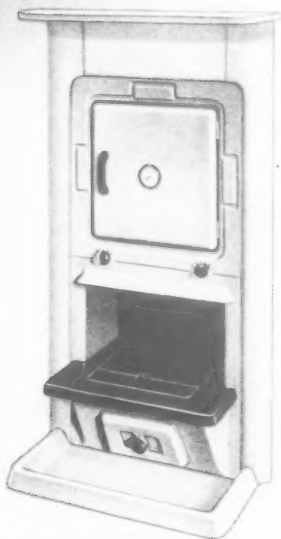
Now that Development Plans are largely complete, most authorities should have carried out a housing survey from which the type of accommodation required in their area can be deduced. Many surveys have revealed a high degree of under-occupancy (as well as overcrowding) and a considerable deficiency of dwellings for the smaller families. Dwellings for small families both cost less and are finished more quickly than those for large families. Furthermore, the provision of a new single-bedroom dwelling will often enable an existing two- or three-bedroom dwelling to be released, thus providing the equivalent of a £1,400 house for an outlay of £950.

Hitherto it has been the general custom to house the four-person household in a two-bedroom type dwelling and the five-person household in a

Town Planning Institute Journal, November, 1951.

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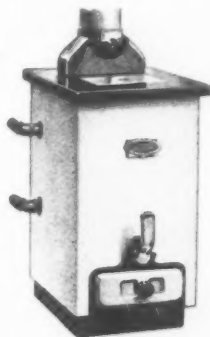
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three-bedroom type. The recent move to provide a three-bedroom house—two single and one double—for the four-person household is to be welcomed on two counts, the first because the occupier has the chance of allotting separate bedrooms to his girl and boy and the second because, based on the Ministry's present standards, the two-bedroom house with an internal store is not an economic proposition.²

It behoves all architects to ensure, before embarking on any housing scheme, that the accommodation requirements have been scientifically calculated.

The Design of the Dwelling

Smaller Houses.—By bringing in early in the paper the background against which standards should be judged, I hoped to clear the air from cries that we are re-creating the slums if the suggestion is made that a few square feet may be cut off a bedroom.

In normal times no architect would wish to criticize the recommendations of the Dudley Committee of 1944, which did a remarkable job in consolidating informed opinion on matters of house design, with a view to setting really good standards for the years of peace which we all hoped lay ahead. Unfortunately times are not normal and whereas the Dudley Committee³ made their recommendations on the assumption that building costs would stabilize at about 30 per cent above the pre-war figure, they are now recognized as being in the region of 300 per cent of that datum.

This staggering discrepancy is surely sufficient cause for a complete review of policy, but what, in fact, has been done? The 1944 *Housing Manual* laid down standards somewhat below the Dudley recommendations; the 1949 *Manual* raised them somewhat above, and the plans illustrated in *Houses*, 1952, the Second Supplement to the 1949 *Manual*, put them back to a point somewhere between 1944 and 1949. While some of the plans in this latest publication give official blessing to many important economic improvements brought about by individual experiments—the omission of the tunnel passage; partial or whole-house heating from one centrally placed fire; internal stores; reduction or omission of halls—it is, nevertheless, clear that in themselves these savings will neither achieve 300,000 dwellings a year nor bring down the cost of houses sufficiently to enable all those in need to pay the rent. Particularly is this the case when, as in certain of the plans, the space saving has been achieved by adopting wider frontages and more complicated construction.

"But," it may be said, "what more can we do? We must preserve standards." The question is, "What standards?" Standards are relative and personal, and it is dangerously easy to

criticize any new venture on the grounds that it departs from "standards." Many architects feel that they are being prevented from the full use of their powers of ingenuity in design by an insistence on specified room sizes. In small house design the fundamental factor is room shape. It is all too easy to produce a bedroom well in excess of the required minimum size which could not be satisfactorily furnished, just as it is undoubtedly possible to plan a well-shaped bedroom below the minimum size which will serve its purpose admirably.

Provided room shapes are planned to take normal bedroom furniture in normal positions, the minima for first and third bedrooms could well be reduced to 120 sq ft and 60 sq ft respectively in place of the present 135 sq ft and 70 sq ft. It seems more reasonable to reduce bedroom sizes where, when all is said and done, one normally spends only one's sleeping hours, than to make the serious inroads on the Dudley kitchen proposed in some of the plans in *Houses* 1952.

The Study-Bedroom⁴

One of the chief criticisms levelled at the smaller house has been that it suffers from the disadvantage that either its two ground-floor rooms, living-room and dining-kitchen, are each inadequate for family gatherings, or that if the living-room is enlarged at the expense of the dining-kitchen, to give a living-dining-room and working kitchen, there is no alternative room available for a member of the household to study while the rest of the family are active in the living-room.

With the scientific methods of house-heating now available this problem can be overcome by heating at least one of the first-floor bedrooms so that it may be used also as a study. We must realize that we can no longer afford, nor do we any longer need, to devote nearly half of our total house area solely to night use.

Seen against the social and economic background I have described, and realising the possibility of making some, at least, of the first-floor bedroom space available for daytime and evening use, it is difficult to believe that a house of 800 sq ft gross is inadequate for a family of five. A reduction of 100 sq ft on the aggregate floor area, taken at the rate of 20s per sq ft, as it is space only that is saved, would effect a saving of £100 on the Ministry's latest five-person house types whose average area is just over 900 sq ft. The inclusion in our programme of at least a proportion of such smaller houses surely deserves the most serious consideration.

Ancillary Items.—Simplicity of structure; simple, short heating and plumbing systems; and the grouping together of sanitary fittings should, of course, be

integral factors in small-house design.

There is, however, still scope for further standardization and prefabrication of parts:

Staircases could be manufactured on a large scale, if architects would agree on desirable floor heights and the need to use the simple straight flight on all possible occasions.

Agreement on two or three standard combinations of spacings between bath, lavatory basin and w.c. would allow of waste connections being standardized and mass produced, leaving only assembly to be carried out on the site.

The synchronization of standard sizes of wood and metal windows in relation to brick dimensions might well be urged upon the appropriate Committees of the British Standards Institute.

Non-Traditional Houses

Judging from papers given at the Building Research Congress last October it would seem that abroad, as well as at home, non-traditional house-building has not yet had a general effect of reducing costs. It has, however, played an essential part in supplementing the traditional house programme, first by bringing in the factory worker to augment a fully employed craft industry (prefabrication), secondly by saving craft time on the site (new site-methods of construction) and thirdly by using materials other than the traditional ones which have often been in short supply.

Cross-wall Construction.—The cross-wall system of construction might well be dealt with first in any consideration of non-traditional housing methods, for it is a development combining traditional and prefabricated construction which has important economic potentialities. Its principles are that the brick cross-walls take all the loads of floor and roof, the front and rear walls being merely weather screens which can be made of panels of various kinds of prefabricated materials.

One of the most important economic features is the saving on foundation work resulting from restricting the loads to the cross-walls. It is claimed that the worse the site, the greater is the saving on foundations compared with those of a traditional house.

The saving of traditional materials particularly bricks, is considerable.

"No-Fines" Houses.—It would appear that both in Britain and on the Continent one of the non-traditional types which has been proved to compete most favourably with the brick house is the "No-Fines" *in situ* concrete house. One important advantage of this form of construction over most of the prefabricated types is that it allows more freedom to the individual architect who does not have to accept a particular house "lock, stock and barrel." Mr. Johnson Blackett, whose contour planning on the mountainsides of Monmouth is well known, states that "An outstanding feature of 'No-Fines' construction is its complete flexibil-

² Proof of this latter point is contained in Figures 7, 9 and 17 of *Houses* 1952, whose authors are to be congratulated on illustrating also one of the new three-bedroom four-person plans.

³ *Design of Dwellings*, para. 149, page 32.

⁴ The Study-Bedroom is dealt with at some length by Maurice Blackshaw in his *Study of Space Utilization in Dwellings in 14 European Countries* and a considerable expansion of this idea of a dual use of rooms was worked out by Grenfell Baines and illustrated in the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL in December, 1950.

ity. . . . I have been able to design staggered and curved terraces of any length without difficulty and, what is more important, without additional expense." He goes on to say that the "No-Fines" method, in his recent experience, has proved to be more speedy in erection than traditional methods.

Prefabricated Houses.—It is perhaps significant that the prefabricated house has so far made only limited headway in the economic field despite the innumerable types which have been tried, with official blessing and support. The contrast with the success of prefabrication in school and factory building is considerable and the answer may be that, at least in areas within easy reach of brickfields, the cost of the traditional materials is sufficiently low to make it impossible for prefabrication, with its essentially more expensive materials, to compete in the housing field. In any case it is surely more logical, assuming both methods of building are essential to our economy to-day, to build the larger buildings, with their larger components, of prefabricated materials rather than the house for which the small brick unit is so convenient. It is therefore all the more unfortunate that certain major non-housing programmes are competing so strongly for bricks. One of the most serious cases is the power station programme, whose sponsors appear to think it essential that their super-modern plant should be shrouded in super-traditional materials. One 400,000 kilowatt power station project takes 5 million bricks—sufficient to build 200 houses.

It must be noted, however, that the Special Reports of the National Building Studies, which examined 13 types of non-traditional houses, gave highest praise of all to a prefabricated type—consisting of large crane-handled precast concrete wall units with cast *in situ* columns and beams—which in the words of the Report "can be cheaper in cost than the traditional house of comparable size and introduces really large economies in man-power."

Circular 28/52 recently issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, which promises local authorities larger housing allocations all round provided they take them in non-traditional types, is a major challenge to the architectural profession. Unless architects are able to play a full part in researches on non-traditional forms of construction, free from bias towards the use of any particular material, it is unlikely that this type of house will reach a standard of design combined with a degree of economy truly comparable with those of the brick house.

The present appearance of many of the non-traditional houses erected only some four or five years ago should serve as a grim reminder of this fact.

Research, Production and Productivity

Whatever differences of opinion there may be on non-traditional housing, it cannot be denied that researches into new methods are providing an urgently

needed stimulus to improvements in traditional building technique.

Like its modern counterpart, traditional building, if it is to survive, must stand on its own feet as regards quality, quantity and price, and there is plenty of scope for improvement in the industry to-day. Notable production achievements are too few and far between and improved methods of working take too long to gain general acceptance. The views of experts given at the Building Research Congress indicated that there was, in our particular industry, a deplorable gap between research and production. This gap must be bridged if productivity is to go up and costs come down, and the architect should be fully alive to the part he has to play in this operation. It is open to doubt whether the recommendations of the Anglo-American Productivity Team are being implemented as enthusiastically as they might be. Here, in particular, the architect has a responsibility to foster the work of the joint productivity committees of architects, builders and quantity surveyors. By his education, training and experience he should have the widest vision of the whole house-building field and he therefore bears the major responsibility for the welding together of the ramifications of research, design and production. He must become, in every sense, the leader of the house-building team.

Layout

I have left until last one of the most far-reaching factors affecting both the visual and the economic scene—the layout. Here again the breadth of the architect's training should enable him to be of the greatest economic value to his client, for he should be able to regard all the elements of the problem—land, houses, roads and services—as being complementary and indivisible.

Unless the same detailed attention is paid to the layout as has been given to the design of the individual houses the labour and money saved thereby will be thrown away. Consequently, when drafting layout plans, it is essential to check the alternative schemes in respect of density and road length per house and to reject heartlessly those which are uneconomic, however pretty they may look.

Road costs, being second only to house costs, must somehow be reduced, and the most effective way to do it is by reducing the lengths of the roads themselves. For those of us who feel that there is greater architectural and social unity in house groups around greens than in corridor streets it is heartening to find that in the green type layout, where skilful use has been made of access paths and narrow carriageways, the cost of roadwork per house can be as much as 20 per cent lower than that on a normal corridor street layout. Road construction, too, may be reduced below the bye-law standards for public highways without detriment to maintenance costs where the roads serve only groups of houses in

cul-de-sac form. They would not then, of course, be taken over as highways, but would be maintained by the housing authority.

Densities, as well as the cost per house of roads and services, are considerably affected by decisions made on such matters as house grouping and house frontage. The semi-detached block with outbuildings at the flanks is the most flagrantly wasteful in these respects, although it is, of course, the easiest to plan. Stores, unless contained inside the house, should where possible be sited at the rear. The use of long terraces should be welcomed on both aesthetic and economic grounds and frontages over 22ft 6in should be regarded as a luxury. Somehow we must increase net housing densities from 10 or 11 per acre to something nearer 15, exclusive of flats, and still retain the amenities now associated with the house group form of development.

The omission of front fences, or their substitution by a simple precast kerb, happily combines amenity with economy and is gradually gaining acceptance in many parts of the country. In such cases it is common practice either for the authority to prepare and maintain the grass forecourts and take the cost into account in assessing the rents, or to make the tenants responsible for their forecourts provided that they cultivate them largely as simple grass plots.

Long screen walls, unnecessary underbuilding, deep drains and superfluous manholes consume precious time, labour and capital, the avoidance of which calls for both careful drawing office work and site supervision. Nevertheless, there is little to be gained and everything to be lost by the recent official banishment of all screen walls.

Conclusion

Let me return to the point I made earlier. The balance of housing is tending to shift back into private hands. If housing schemes are to maintain their post-war standards in design and layout it is essential that architects should play the same part in private development as they are playing in the subsidized housing programme. We can hardly expect this to come about by Government edict. We must bring it about by proving to the public in general the private developer in particular that not only can we design good individual houses to a well laid out plan but that we can design all-embracing housing schemes which are economically sounder than those prepared by anybody else.

We have for too long allowed the public to associate ugliness with economy instead of with ignorance. Time and again economy and aesthetics go hand in hand. This year, with the private and local authority programmes going forward together, the architect has a unique opportunity of establishing that Britain's most profitable housing investment is the enlistment of his services.

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

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EIRE-BALLINA U.C. (a) (Contract A) 20 houses and site works; (Contract B) 6 houses and site works or (Contract A-B) 26 houses and site works at Corcoran's Terrace and Circular Road. (b) Town Clerk, Council Offices, Dillon Terrace, Ballina, Co. Mayo. (c) £10; (e) July 22.

EIRE-CLONSILLA. (a) Ward block, infirmary, kitchen and dining hall, boiler house and laundry, nurses' wing, reconstruction of domestic staff building and mortuary at the hospital at St. Joseph's, Clonsilla, for the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. (b) Messrs. Morris and Kavanagh, 68, Harcourt Street, Dublin. (c) £50. (e) July 24.

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LEEDS C.C. (a) Conversion of 279, Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7, into hostel for aged blind men. (b) City Architect, Priestley House, Quarry Hill, 9. (c) £1. (e) July 14.

LEEDS C.C. (a) (Contract No. 506) 18 temporary shops on the Beckett Park, Seacroft, Beechwood, Moorside, Moor- town and Swinnow Estates. (b) City Architect, Priestley House, Quarry Hill, 9. (c) £1. (e) July 15.

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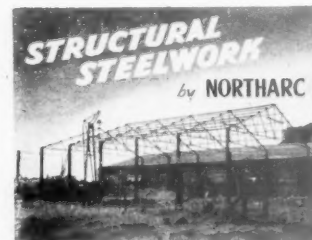
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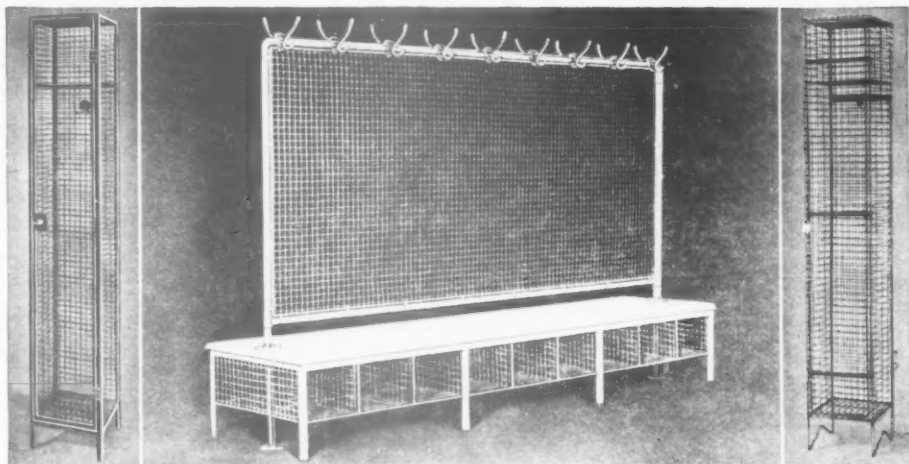
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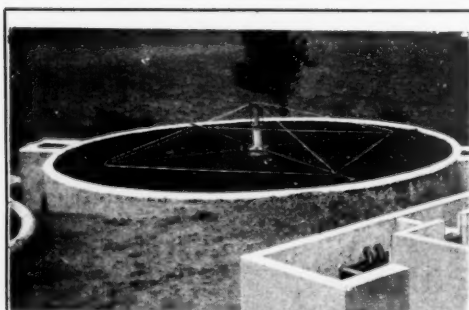
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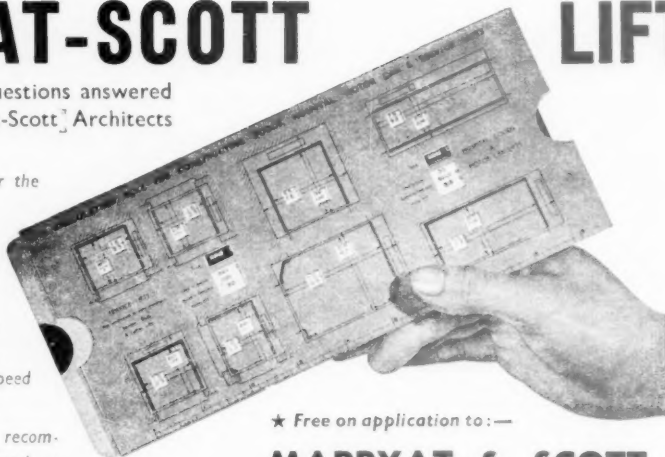
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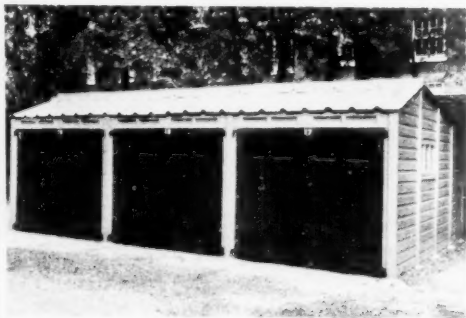
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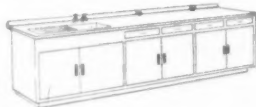
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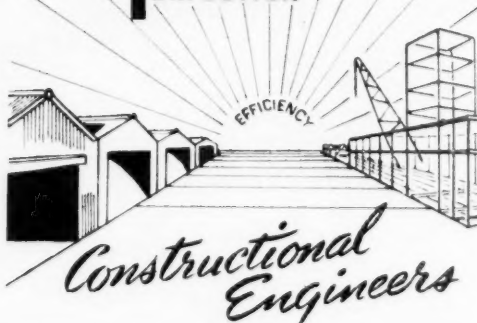
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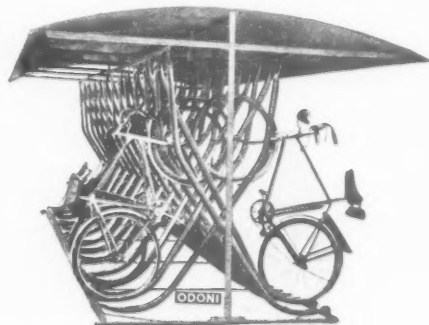


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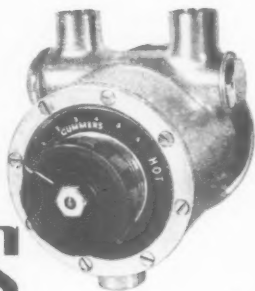


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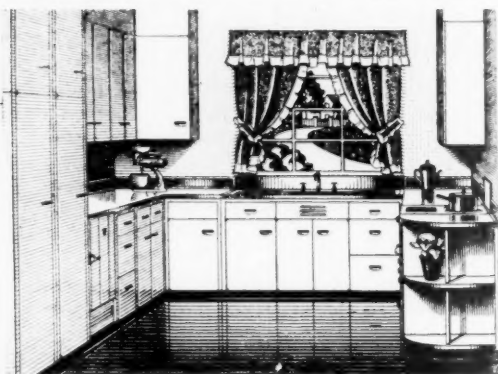
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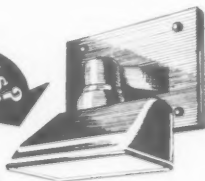
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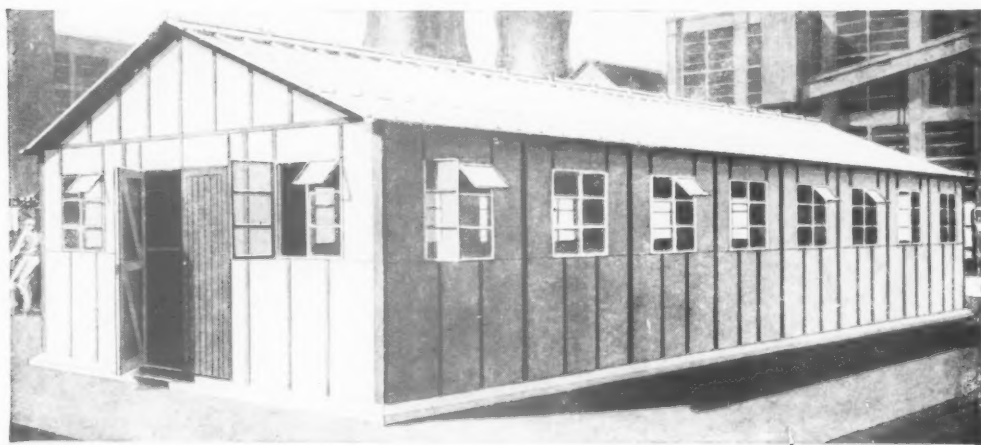
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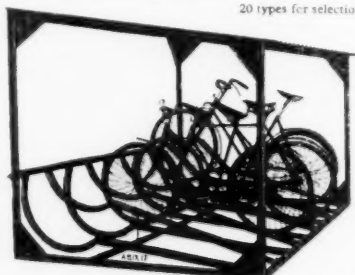
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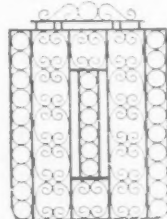
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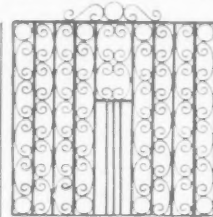
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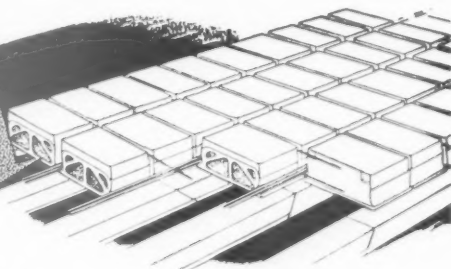
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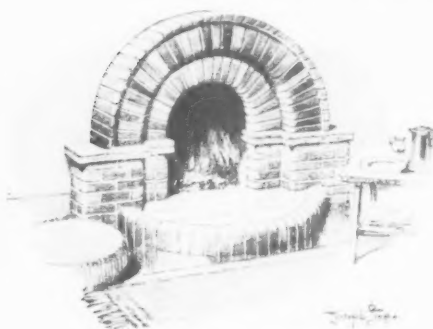
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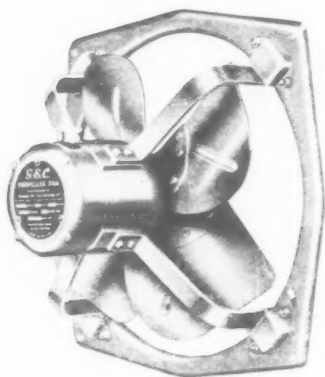
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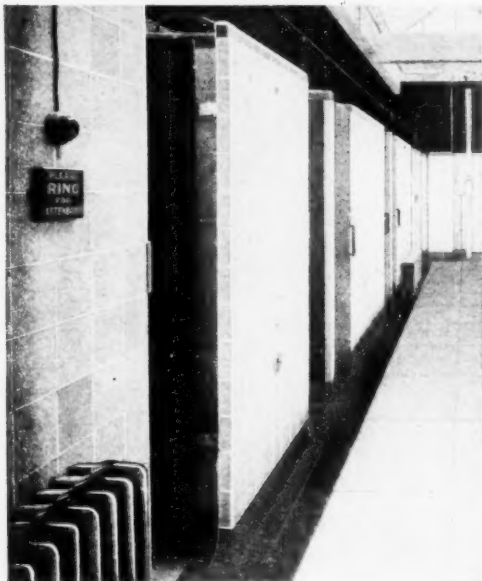
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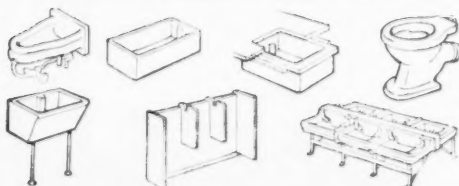
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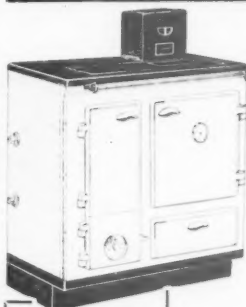
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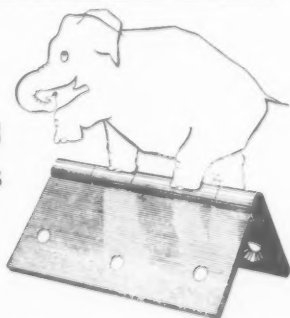
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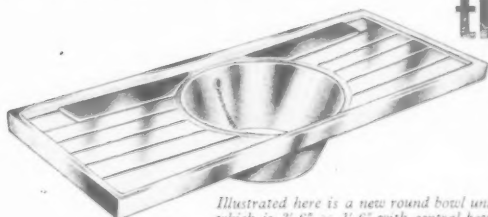
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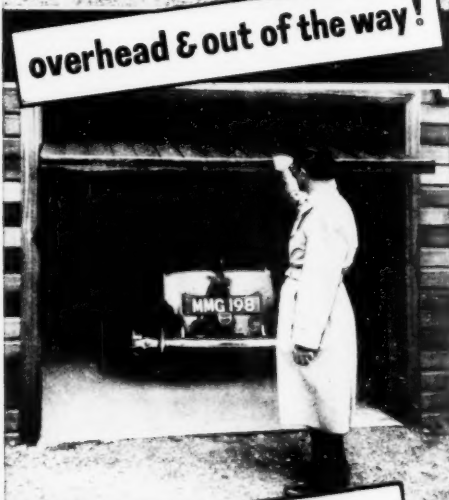
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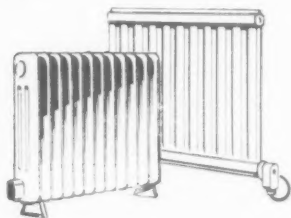
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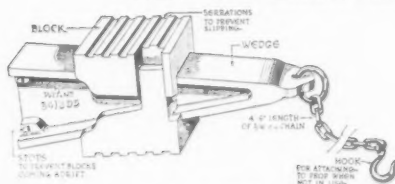
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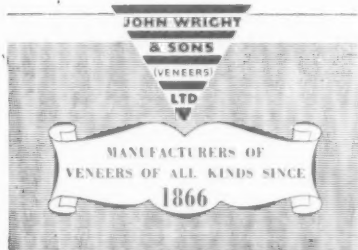
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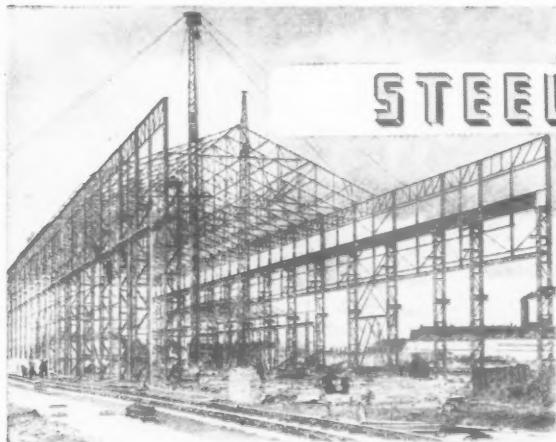


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STANLEY DUMBELL,

Registrar.

June, 1952.

[6493]

COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUTHERLAND.

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The appointment will be subject to termination by one month's notice in writing on either side, to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Act, 1937, and to conditions of service of the National Joint Council. The successful candidate will require to pass a medical examination.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, present and past appointments, and details of experience, together with the names of three persons to whom reference can be made as to ability, should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 31st July, 1952.

J. A. MACRAE,

County Clerk.

County Offices,

GOLSPIE.

24th June, 1952.

[6498]

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[6499]

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W. G. FUTCHER,

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[6500]

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[6503]

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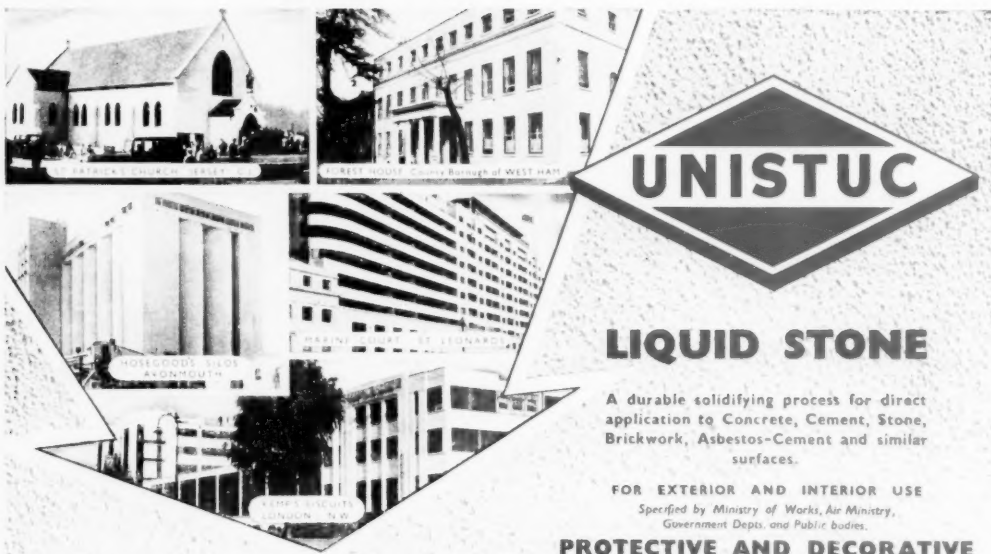
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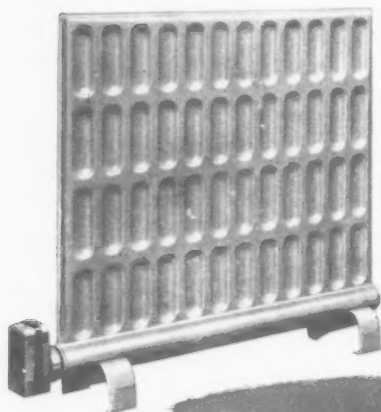
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